

2 Frenchmen kidnapped in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Two Frenchmen were kidnapped by unidentified gunmen last week on the main highway to Beirut's international airport in the capital's southern suburbs, police said Sunday. Police said the French embassy in Beirut informed Lebanese security agencies that the pair, identified as researcher Michael Seurat and journalist Jean-Paul Kauffman, disappeared last Sunday. Police said the French embassy asked them not to reveal the news pending contacts between the embassy and militia officials. French embassy officials could not be reached Sunday for comment on the report. Police said an investigation disclosed that the Frenchmen were abducted at gunpoint on the airport road. Police said Mr. Seurat has lived in Lebanon for some time. He works for the Centre for Studies and Research of the Contemporary Middle East, a part of the French state-run National Centre for Scientific and Sociological Studies.

Jordan Times

An independent daily political publication
Jordanian Times is a daily political publication
Jordanian Times is a daily political publication

Klibi makes stopover in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi made a brief stopover in Amman Sunday on his way from Beirut to Moscow at the head of an Arab delegation for talks with Soviet officials on the Iran-Iraq war and ways to end the continuing conflict. In Beirut, Mr. Klibi held talks with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and Shiite Amal militia leader Nabih Berri on the continuing Amal attacks on Palestinian refugee camps in the Lebanese capital and means to end the assaults. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, quoted Mr. Klibi as saying his talks with the Lebanese leaders were productive and a solution to the Beirut violence was expected soon. Mr. Klibi arrived in the Lebanese capital Saturday night.

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Regent receives Somali message to King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday received a message addressed to His Majesty King Hussein from Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre. The message was delivered to Prince Hassan by Somali Envoy Mohammad Al Shin Kheir, first vice president and minister of defence. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali and Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb.

Bridges reopen as of today

AMMAN (Petra) — The King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges across River Jordan will be reopened as normal as of today, the Public Security Department (PSD) said Sunday. The PSD had announced the closure of the two bridges for Sunday to travellers and lorries from and to the occupied West Bank.

SLA man killed, 2 injured in attack

TEL AVIV (AP) — A soldier of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia was killed and two others wounded in an attack in the Israeli "security zone" in South Lebanon, Israeli military sources said on Sunday. The sources said the attack took place on Saturday night near the village of Majd Al Salim, 10 kilometres west of the Israeli border town of Kiryat Shmona. They said the assailants opened small arms fire on the militiamen, killing one and wounding two others. One of the wounded men was evacuated to hospital in Israel, they said.

Qadhafi offers 'millions of dollars' to Sudan

LONDON (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has offered Sudan's new military government "hundreds of millions of dollars" if it denounces the 1979 treaty between Egypt and Israel, the Observer newspaper reported Sunday. Quoting Arab sources, the paper said the offer was first made by Libya's number two man, Majid Abdul Salam Jalloud, when he visited Khartoum earlier this month but was put under insistence by Col. Qadhafi himself during a surprise stopover at Khartoum airport last weekend. The weekly paper did not report the response of the Sudanese military council led by General Abdul Rahman Swaroudahab.

Wall collapse kills 11 in French camp

SAINT-CYR-SUR-MER, France (R) — At least 11 people, including four children, were killed and nine seriously injured Sunday when a cliff support wall collapsed onto crowded tents in a Mediterranean seaside campsite near Toulon, police said. The stone and concrete wall, apparently eroded by salt and water and shifted last week by heavy rain, suddenly gave way at around 8 a.m. local time (0600 GMT), burying tents, caravans and campers. About 800 holidaymakers were in the campsite at the time.

INSIDE

- * King, Reagan meet on Wednesday, page 2
- * Doctors face low income, unemployment in Jordan, page 3
- * There has always been a summit in times of crisis, page 4
- * King: Mideast conflict is direct result of abandonment of principles, page 5
- * Cruz loses 800-metre race, page 6
- * Saudi Arabia, Iran support OPEC pricing, page 7
- * Angola seeks S. African explanation over foiled raid, page 8

Continued Amal fire foils Red Cross bid to aid Beirut camp victims

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Heavy fighting continued Sunday between Palestinian fighters in Beirut's three refugee camps and Lebanese militiamen supported by army soldiers, thwarting new Red Cross attempts to rescue scores of casualties trapped in the camps.

Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, an ally of the Shiite Amal movement, mediated a truce for midday Sunday at the Sabra, Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh camps to enable the Red Cross to rescue an unknown number of wounded and remove corpses.

But the truce failed to get off the ground and the Red Cross said its PSP-escorted convoys could not get into any of the embattled camps. Reporters said the stench of decaying bodies enshrouded Sabra's partially Amal-occupied streets.

"We could not enter the camps because the ceasefire never happened," said Sophie Martin, the Red Cross Swiss chief in Beirut. A Palestinian spokesman, who spoke to the AP on condition he was not identified, said some 250 casualties were to have been taken to hospitals in the PSP-controlled central mountains "because Shi'ites have killed many Palestinians in Beirut hospitals."

Police said three people were killed and 57 wounded Sunday. That raised the known toll to 361 killed and 1,658 wounded since Amal men attacked the camps last Sunday, according to the AP. Mr. Junblatt called the abortive ceasefire as mediators from Arab countries strove in Beirut and

office, the first time the area had come under such shelling for a year, residents told Reuters.

The bombardment, which radios said came from hills above Beirut, erupted two hours after snipers drove back the Red Cross vehicles trying to enter the Bourj Al Barajneh camp under a ceasefire.

The Red Cross has made three attempts to enter the camps, but on all occasions it has been driven back by fighting.

Reporters have been barred from entering the camps.

President Amin Gemayel, meanwhile, discussed the fighting with Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi in Beirut.

Mr. Klibi arrived in Beirut Sunday and met with Nabih Berri, leader of the Amal movement.

Lebanon's state radio quoted an unnamed source close to Mr. Klibi as saying his talks with Mr. Berri were "constructive and positive... a solution is expected within the coming hours."

The foreign ministers of Libya and Morocco held prolonged talks with Syrian government leaders for a second day to discuss ways of ending the fighting.

Amal and Palestinians accused each other of breaking the latest truce.

"We wanted to allow the Red Cross in, but they (Palestinians) sniped at us. Our men are trying to silence Palestinian fire," said an "Amal official as a Red Cross convoy waited on the edge of Bourj Al Barajneh."

The Palestinian spokesman said Amal militiamen fired first at Bourj Al Barajneh and then mounted a new assault against the beleaguered Palestinian positions of (Continued on page 2)

Arafat arrives in Kuwait, condemns attack on emir

PLO leader says Fahd promised efforts to end assaults on Beirut refugee camps

By Rama Sabbagh with agency dispatches

KUWAIT — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived here Sunday from Amman to congratulate the emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on his escape from an assassination attempt on Saturday. "We strongly condemn the perpetration, and every Palestinian man and woman supports Kuwait," Mr. Arafat was quoted as saying in an airport statement carried by the Associated Press.

Mr. Arafat, who arrived here from Amman on his way to Tunis, is also expected to seek Kuwaiti help in seeking an end to the week-long assault by Lebanese militiamen against three Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut.

Prior to his departure from Amman, Mr. Arafat told reporters that he had been assured by Saudi Arabia that the kingdom was moving to end "the massacres of Palestinians in west Beirut."

Mr. Arafat said he had contacted King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and the Libyan leadership to brief them on recent developments in the Lebanese capital and the continuing attacks on the Sabra, Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh refugee camps in which some 350 people have been killed and over 1,000 injured since last Sunday.

Mr. Arafat said he appealed to King Fahd to use Saudi influence with the Syrian government to seek an end to the attacks and the Saudi monarch promised him that "he will not accept the continuation of such massacres against the Palestinian people in Beirut."

Eight Brigade soldiers Sunday began using bulldozers to level housing units and shelters of the refugees in the Sabra camp in a move aimed at wiping out the camp.

Earlier Sunday, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Amman met with Mr. Arafat and delivered him a message from the Soviet leadership. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the message affirmed the Soviet stand against "all attempts to obliterate the Palestinians in their camps (in Beirut)," and briefed Mr. Arafat on Soviet contacts with the Syrian government asking it to "intervene and end the bloodshed" in the Beirut camps.

Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Sami Joudah said Sunday that Jordan had been holding direct contacts on both the regional and international levels in an attempt to stop the attacks on the camps as well as other Palestinians in Lebanon.

Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib, in a statement to Petra on Saturday, said Jordan and the PLO had coordinated their efforts to seek an end to "the attempts aimed at eliminating the Palestinians" living in Lebanon.

Khalil Al Wazir, deputy military commander of the PLO, said a Palestinian refugee camp in Baalbek in Eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley was also under direct attacks by Amal militiamen. "This implies that all Palestinians living in Lebanon are the target of bloodshed and massacres," Mr. Wazir said and called on the Arab World to "interfere and seek an urgent end to the attacks before it is too late."

Mr. Arafat was to attend meetings of the PLO Central Council in Tunis late Sunday. The meeting opened earlier in the day to discuss the situation in Lebanon and the question of Palestinian unity in light of the newly-formed Syrian-backed "national Pal-

estinian salvation front". The Damascus-based front, which was formed in March, includes all PLO groups, opposing Mr. Arafat's leadership of the PLO except the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

The other groups are the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-Geographical Command (PFLP-GC), Al Sa'iq, the Popular Struggle Front, the Palestine Liberation Front and rebels in Fatah, the mainstream command group in the PLO.

The meeting of the PLO Central Council, which acts as an intermediate organisation between the Palestine National Council (PNC) and the PLO Executive Committee, is the first since the PNC held its 17th session in Amman last November.

Internal differences among the various PLO factions, which are represented in the council, had delayed the meeting. However, the urgent issue of the plight of the Palestinian refugees under attack in Beirut prompted the factions to bury their differences and convene the meeting, according to informed PLO sources in Amman.

Fatah Revolutionary Council member Tareq Abu Rajab was quoted by the AP as saying in Tunis on Sunday that the situation in Beirut was expected to dominate the council's meeting.

Mr. Abu Rajab described the attacks on the Beirut camps as "Syrian-Shi'ite plot" which had "American-Zionist approval."

Mr. Abu Rajab also said that the attacks were being carried out "under the indifferent eye of the Arab World and with Syrian complicity."



Palestinians in 'Ala Al Hilweh refugee camp in South Lebanon stage protests Saturday against Lebanese militia attacks on refugee camps in Beirut (AP wirephoto)

Iraqis bomb Iranian cities in retaliation to blast in Kuwait

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi jet fighters raided Tehran and six other Iranian cities Sunday in retaliation for the assassination attempt against the emir of Kuwait and 21 people were reported killed, Iraqi and Iranian communiques said.

The resolution accused Iran of involvement in the assassination attempt on Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait on Saturday, when a car bomber rammed into Sheikh Jaber's motorcade, killing himself and three other people. The emir escaped with only scratches.

Iraq also said two more towns were hit by long-range Iraqi missiles and at least six, but possibly 10 people were killed in the pre-dawn bombing of the capital and an unspecified number were killed or wounded in the raid on the western city of Haman.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said another western border city, Marivan, was also raided by Iraqi planes.

IRNA said the Iraqis fired long-range missiles at the western cities of Bakhtaran (formerly Kermanshah) and Islamabad-e-Gharb at 1:40 p.m. (1010 GMT). It gave no casualty figures. Iraq confirmed the attacks.

An Iraqi communique said waves of between four and 10 fighter-bombers hit "selected targets" in the Iranian towns of

Sar-e-Pol-e-Zabab, Guilaneh-e-Gharb and Dehloran as well as military bases in Baneh, Khanah and Marivan.

An Iraqi spokesman said the raids followed a resolution tabled Saturday by the Iraqi leadership to punish Iran "for its crimes and exportation of chaos and destruction, as well as for its continuation of war and aggression against Iraq."

The resolution accused Iran of involvement in the assassination attempt on Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait on Saturday, when a car bomber rammed into Sheikh Jaber's motorcade, killing himself and three other people. The emir escaped with only scratches.

Iraq also warned Saturday that it would raid Iranian targets saying that Iraq "has been defending the countries of the (Gulf) region against the evils of Iran."

"The Iraqis have been escalating their subversion against more than one Arab country and the latest act of subversion has been the vile attempt on the life of the emir of Kuwait," the Iraqi resolution added.

The shadowy Lebanon-based "Islamic Jihad" group, which is believed to have strong support by

Iran, has claimed responsibility for the attack on Sheikh Jaber.

Iran said Sunday it will "hit Baghdad" and Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Mussavi said there was a "strong possibility" that the attack on Tehran was "instigated by the United States."

"The U.S. should know that we are capable of turning the Gulf into a bog where the U.S. will sink," he said.

Iran earlier called on Baghdad inhabitants to leave the Iraqi capital and other cities for "safe places."

Iran also charged that Baghdad was behind bomb explosions which killed one person in the Saudi capital Riyadh last Sunday, while Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal was visiting Tehran.

He was the first Saudi minister to go to Iran since its 1979 Islamic revolution, and the Tehran war information headquarters said Iraq staged the bombings in "warm" Saudi Arabia against developing "closer ties" with Iran.

Sunday's Iraqi air raids were the first since early April, when a month-long wave of air-for-air and missile strikes that left hundreds dead both sides of the border eased off.

45 die in tanker explosions in Spain

SAN ROQUE, Spain (R) — At least 40 people were feared killed and 45 injured Sunday in an explosion which engulfed two tankers in a ball of flame in this southern Spanish port near Gibraltar, a Civil Guard spokesman said.

Rescue workers recovered bodies from the sea and from damaged port installations after a 500-metre-tall fireball erupted from the Panamanian-registered tanker Petragen-One while it was unloading naphtha.

The blast touched off a second explosion on the Spanish tanker Campanavia, which was loaded with oil.

The casualties included crew from both ships and dock workers, the spokesman said.

Both vessels were blown apart and were sinking rapidly. Rescue workers plucked at least 25 bodies from the water, officials said.

There was no serious damage to a nearby oil refinery owned by the Spanish state oil company, Compania Espanola de Petroleos.

The blast spread a 200-metre oil slick around the sinking vessels.

The registered owner of the 19,070-ton Petragen-One is Welis Ltd of Panama, according to Lloyd's register of ships.

It was built in South Korea in 1982. The 4,222-ton Campanavia, owned by the Spanish petroleum distribution company Campsa, was built and registered in 1973 in the Spanish port of Giron.

The explosions shattered windows over a wide area and sent huge columns of smoke into the air, and port officials said a fire resulting from the explosions was under control.

Kuwait probes assassination bid

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait security forces have launched a high-level probe into the concoctions of a lone suicide bomber who failed in a car-bomb bid Saturday to assassinate the emir of Kuwait.

However, the country reopened its borders Sunday after temporarily barring foreigners from entering on leaving following the attack on Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah in the early morning hours of Saturday.

Four people including the attacker were killed when he crashed his car, laden with explosives, into the emir's motorcade on the city waterfront. Sheikh Jaber, 59, escaped with scratches from flying glass.

Government spokesman Rashid Al Rashid said the cabinet Sunday reviewed the situation, and a top-level emergency security committee led by Interior Minister Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah discussed clues to the identity of the lone suicide driver. No further details were given.

Al Qabas newspaper reported that a number of people had been rounded up by police for questioning, but it was not more specific.

The attack triggered a flare-up in the Iran-Iraq war, with Iraqi air and missile attacks on Iranian centres. Baghdad said it was retaliation for what it called Tehran's involvement in the assassination bid.

After closing its borders to non-Kuwaitis soon after the attack, the government Sunday lifted its ban on entering or leaving the country. Mr. Rashid said, however, that temporary measures would allow the government to stop some people from leaving.

An anonymous caller claiming to represent the shadowy "Islamic Jihad" (holy war) group, dem-

anding the release of 17 prisoners held in Kuwait for involvement in 1983 bomb blasts in the Gulf state, claimed responsibility Saturday for the attack.

The car bomb, which Al Qabas said contained the equivalent of 100 kilograms of TNT, badly damaged the emir's car and set several others ablaze.

Two of the emir's guards, named as Mohammad Qablan Musbeh and Hadi Hamad Lafi, were killed in the blast and were buried Sunday in a ceremony attended by Crown Prince Sheikh Saud Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

Diplomats and residents said the area of Saturday's attack was still cordoned off. Spot security checks had been stepped up but security did not appear to be so tight as after the 1983 bombings.

Islamic Jihad has said it is holding four Americans and two Frenchmen in Lebanon and will free them only when Kuwait releases the prisoners.

The six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which groups Kuwait with Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, added its voice Sunday in widespread regional condemnation of Saturday's attack.

The GCC secretariat issued a statement from Riyadh condemning and denouncing the act, "and all other terrorist attempts and subversive activities aimed at undermining security and stability in this vital area of the world."

It said Kuwait and other Gulf states would continue to foil the attempts "of those who lie in wait to perpetrate evil against loyal sons of the nation."

Arab Press denounces attack, page 2

Sheikh Jaber — Kuwait's political architect, page 4

Masri arrives in Moscow

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri arrived in Moscow Sunday to join an Arab League delegation for talks with Soviet leaders on ways to end the 36-month-old Iran-Iraq war and seek an active Kremlin role in efforts for a peaceful solution to the conflict.

During his visit to Moscow, Mr. Masri will also deliver a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and brief Soviet leaders on the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a common political strategy towards solving the Palestinian problem.

A Royal Decree was issued Sunday appointing Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Hazem Nuseibeh as acting foreign minister during Mr. Masri's mission abroad.

Commenting on Mr. Masri's visit to Moscow, Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib confirmed Saturday that the foreign minister was carrying a message from the King to Mr. Gorbachev. Mr. Khatib, in a statement in the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said King Hussein, who meets U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the White House on Wednesday, will seek to bring American pressure on Israel in response positively to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves for peace. However, Mr. Khatib said, Jordan's moves are not limited to the U.S. in this respect. He revealed that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will visit Paris next month to brief French leaders on the Feb. 11 agreement and seek their support for the agreement.

Mr. Khatib described the talks the King held with British officials during a stopover in London on his way to the U.S. last week as part of Jordan's continuing contacts with major world powers in a bid to bring about the implementation of U.N. resolutions on the Middle East problem.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti News Agency said that Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah will not join the Arab League team to Moscow as originally scheduled because of Saturday's assassination bid against the emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

The seven-nation delegation, charged by the Arab League to bring about a diplomatic solution to the Gulf war, is expected to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromykin on Monday. It was not known whether the team will meet Mr. Gorbachev.

Diplomatic sources in Moscow, quoted by Reuters, said Mr. Masri and Mr. Gromyko are to meet separately for talks on the Feb. 11 agreement.

The Arab League delegation has already visited France, China, Britain and Italy. It has yet to go to the United States.

The delegation also includes the foreign ministers of Iraq and North Yemen. The other members are Morocco, Tunisia and Saudi Arabia, in addition to Kuwait.

But Saudi Arabia, which has no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, is not represented in the team sent to Moscow.

The delegation, headed by Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi, is expected to set out the Arab view that Iraq should receive international backing because it is calling for a peace settlement.

Diplomats quoted by Reuters said the Kremlin was unlikely to give unreserved support to that view, to prevent relations worsening with Iran, which has refused to end the war until the Iraqi government is deposed and Iraq agrees to "reparations."

They noted that Moscow had not reacted strongly to a continuing drive against the Iranian Communist Party and to anti-Soviet statements because to the long term it sees relations with Tehran as strategically vital.

The attack on the life of Sheikh Jaber, which the emir escaped with minor scratches, triggered a wave of air attacks by Iraq on Iran whom Baghdad blamed for the attempt.

Fling, Reagan to seek Mideast breakthrough

By Ibrahim Noori
Reuter

AMMAN — King Hussein and U.S. President Ronald Reagan will be trying to break deadlock over latest Jordanian-Palestinian Middle East peace moves when they meet in Washington on Wednesday.

Diplomats in Amman say the success of a joint initiative by King Hussein and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) aimed at winning a homeland for the Palestinian people and bringing peace to the region.

The initiative has the backing of Egypt, which already has a peace treaty with Israel, but has been denounced by Syria, Libya and hardline Palestinian command groups who reject any compromise with the Jewish state.

It is King Hussein's first meeting with Mr. Reagan since the King and Mr. Arafat signed an accord in February to work jointly for peace with Israel in exchange for the return of occupied Arab territory.

The deadlock is over who should represent the Palestinians in a proposed joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to initial talks with the U.S. prior to negotiations with Israel.

Mr. Arafat wants the PLO, recognised by the Arabs and much of the world as the representative of the Palestinian people, to be on the team. But the U.S. and Israel refuse to talk to the PLO because of its past commando actions against Israel.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz discussed the composition of the proposed delegation with King Hussein when he visited Jordan on a Middle East tour earlier this month, but they apparently reached no agreement.

One compromise said to be under discussion would allow non-PLO members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) to represent the Palestinians in the delegation. The PNC is the Palestinians' equivalent of a parliament-in-exile and includes both PLO commandos and civilians.

Both Jordan and the PLO have publicly rejected this idea. King Hussein and Mr. Arafat

are agreed on confederal ties between Jordan and the Palestinian state they aim for, comprising the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of the River Jordan.

Israel, created in 1948 in what was formerly Palestine, captured both areas by force in 1967. Gaza from Egypt and the West Bank from Jordan. The Israelis captured the Arab sector of Jerusalem, site of the Al Aqsa Mosque sacred to Muslims, in the war of June 1967.

The U.S. has said it will talk to the PLO if it explicitly accepts United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, which states that Israel has a right to exist.

Diplomats here spoke of a lack of optimism over whether the Hussein-Reagan talks would bring peace closer. The White House, too, has warned against expectations of any breakthrough.

"I can say that while we don't necessarily see King Hussein's visit as a watershed, we do believe it can contribute to the growing sense of momentum and hope in the area," White House spokesman Robert Sims said last week.

Mr. Arafat himself told reporters here he was not optimistic because the U.S. would not recognise the PLO. "They (the U.S.) are trying to hide the sun with their finger," he said.



ARAFAT DEPARTS: Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat (second from left) is seen at Amman Airport prior to his departure to Kuwait. Mr. Arafat was accompanied by Deputy Commander of the Palestinian forces

Khalil Al Wazir (second from right) and was seen off by Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed (right) and Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Sami Jdeh (Petra photo)

Zia arrives in UAE amid tight security

DUBAI (R) — Pakistani President Zia ul Haq arrived in Dubai Sunday for a short private visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) amid tight security at the city's airport and main streets.

Dubai residents reported an increase in police patrols and other security measures in the wake of Saturday's car-bomb attack on the Emir of Kuwait.

The Pakistani embassy in Abu Dhabi said Gen. Zia would meet in Dubai with the Emir's ailing ruler and UAE Vice President Sheikh Rashid bin Said Al Maktoum, whose health has declined in recent weeks.

The two leaders are personal friends and Sheikh Rashid, along with other UAE sheikhs, keeps a holiday residence in Pakistan.

Later Sunday Gen. Zia is due to hold talks with UAE President Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan Al Nahayan in Abu Dhabi on the Gulf war fighting between Iran and Iraq, the situation in Lebanon, and bilateral ties, an official said.

Pakistan is an important trading partner of the UAE and has roughly 200,000 nationals working there, the embassy estimates.

Air, sea are only outlets for Saharan town

By Charles Lambelin
Reuter

DAKHLA, Western Sahara — A long, sandy finger jutting into the Atlantic, the Dakhla peninsula is like lower California with the blue waters of the Rio de Oro Bay and glittering white cliffs shimmering in the heat like mirages.

A piece of string and a crude book suffice to land a 25-kilogramme fish. Off the coast, thousands of Soviet, South Korean, Japanese, Spanish and Moroccan fishermen work in one of the world's richest fishing grounds.

But Dakhla, a town of 20,000 closer to Dakar than Casablanca, is a Moroccan enclave, prisoner of an inhospitable desert and the Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas who roam it.

Known as Villa Cisneros when the Western Sahara was a Spanish colony, the town is supplied by sea or by air.

The dust track leading north towards Boujdour and La Yona is in a bad state and militarily unsafe, local officials say.

Dakhla, where French pilot/aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupery, author of the Little Prince, used to stop over with aviation pioneers in the 1920s, has been Moroccan since 1979.

When Spain left the Western Sahara hurriedly in 1976, Morocco and Mauritania agreed to share the territory, which is half the size of France. Rabat got the north, called Saguia El Hamra, and Mauritania took the south — Rio de Oro.

But in 1979, embattled Mauritania sought peace with the Polisario, who are fighting for the ter-

ritory's independence. Mauritania pulled out of Rio de Oro and the Moroccans moved in.

The peninsula on which the white town, the airport and the small port are built is easily defended. On the mainland, a semi-circular defensive line of sand and stone keeps guerrillas out. Any attack could come only from the sea.

Besides Dakhla, the former Rio de Oro is practically uninhabited. Except for occasional search and destroy raids, Moroccan troops do not foray into this huge tract of desert. The Polisario maintains small units, supplied by underground caches, which occasionally shell Moroccan positions, according to Moroccan officers in Dakhla.

Two private aircraft, a Belgian one taking part in the Paris-Dakar Air Rally and a West German one returning from a South Pole expedition, were shot down over the wilderness south of Dakhla earlier this year, probably by heavy machinegun fire.

A new road from Boujdour, 300 kilometres to the north, is planned to open up the peninsula, but defences will have to be built all along it to protect the vulnerable route.

Officials said such a project was unlikely to be implemented until the whole northern part of the territory was firmly secured. A small part of it, near the Mauritanian border, remains outside 1,200-kilometre long defence lines.

Bringing everything by sea or air is costly. But like the rest of the Western Sahara, Dakhla enjoys big financial concessions. Staples like flour, cooking oil and sugar are heavily subsidised and cheaper

than in the capital, Rabat.

Petrol is half price and radios, televisions, watches and tobacco are imported from the tax-free zone in the Spanish Canary Islands.

The town owes its existence to Portuguese seafarers who found drinking water and a safe anchorage.

Centuries later, Spaniards digging for oil on the peninsula found water. The well has given birth to a small oasis where tomatoes and fresh vegetables are grown.

This winter, for the first time, tomatoes were "exported" by air to northern Morocco. But Dakhla's future lies probably less in farming than in fishing and tourism. There are plans to hold the World Deep Sea Fishing Championships here.

Continued attack foils bid for aid to refugees

(Continued from page 1)

Sabra and Shatila behind "heavy tank fire" from the Lebanese army's Sixth Brigade.

The Red Cross convoy waited 90 minutes before driving off. Red Cross volunteers clad in orange jumpsuits were tense as bullets whizzed over their heads before the operation was called off.

"We thought they were finished, but they're still there," said one militiaman at a firing position. "We don't know how many are left."

Rabin rules out talks with Arafat

LONDON (R) — Israel will not negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) because that would mean accepting the principle of an independent Palestinian state, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an interview published Sunday.

"There is a consensus between Labour and Likud (the ruling coalition partners) that they will never accept a Palestinian state. Such a state would be a disaster, a time bomb," he told the Sunday Times newspaper.

"Even talking to (PLO leader Yasser) Arafat is accepting the

principle of an independent Palestinian state between Israel and Jordan, and we will not accept that. I will not talk to the PLO."

Interviewed in Tel Aviv last week, Mr. Rabin, a member of the Labour Party, said the government was prepared to meet a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation but any peace agreement would have to be between Jordan and Israel.

Labour was prepared to go further than Likud in offering territorial concessions to a Jordanian-Palestinian state which had one government and one army, he added.

Arab press denounces Kuwait bomb attack

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Middle East newspapers called Sunday for tighter regional security in the wake of Saturday's suicide bomb attack on the Emir of Kuwait.

Cairo's English-language Egyptian Gazette urged a pan-Arab drive against terrorism, declaring "nobody knows who will be the next victim, when and where."

The Dubai Gulf News in the United Arab Emirates said refusal to give ground was a part response to terrorism and another, equally important, was to block all opportunity.

"Surely, sufficiently foolproof methods can be devised to make the proximity of unauthorised persons to certain areas and people far more difficult than it actually is."

The Islamic Jihad (Holy War) group claimed responsibility for Saturday's attack in which four people died when a suicide driver crashed his explosives-laden car into the Kuwaiti ruler's motorcade. The Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah escaped with scratches from flying glass.

The Dubai newspaper said Jihad was a group that "mocks its own title... it is either incapable of distinguishing the foes of Islam from its friends or, lacking the guts to face them, is resolved on a ruthless demonstration of its fervour elsewhere."

In Kuwait itself, the Arabic language Al Salsal asked: "Why don't such horrific incidents occur in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, or even in Libya? Why does Egypt discover body-trapped cars before they explode, while we do not?"

The independent newspaper Al Qabas quoted an unidentified official as saying that the car which blasted the Emir's motorcade was loaded with 100 kilograms of high explosives.

The newspaper Al Anbaa insisted in an editorial that the government hasten the execution of the three terrorists of the 1983 blasts.

"Jaber Al Ahmad has defied terrorism when he refused to go back on the court sentences against the killers who tried to terrorise Kuwait," said the paper.

Al Anbaa was referring to threats from Jihad Islam and other groups to Kuwait if the 17 were not freed.

Jihad Islam is a shadowy organisation believed to be Iranian backed.

Iran has disclaimed any connection with the attempt on Sheikh Jaber's life. The Kuwaiti state radio broadcast a message to Sheikh Jaber from Iranian President Ali Khamenei expressing regrets over the incident and deploring it.

Bahrain's Al Akhbar Al Khabeej said the attempt showed up the "narrow horizons of its perpetrators, even though they claimed to be fighting for the glory of Islam."

Saudi Arabia's Al Riyadh said Kuwait and other Arab states could not accept such a state of terror "like a disease transferred from somewhere else." Jeddah-based Al Ukhadh said the incident would impel Gulf states "into taking more stringent, strong and severe (security) measures."

Iraq seized on the bombing to castigate Iran, its Gulf war foe. Overnight it launched air raids on Tehran and another Iranian city which a Baghdad military spokesman said were intended to punish Iran for involvement in the Kuwaiti bombing.

Baghdad's Al Thawra, organ of the ruling Ba'ath Party, declared that "undoubtedly this attempt was master-minded by the criminal Tehran regime" to try to isolate Iraq from the Gulf Arab states.

In Muscat, an editorial in the government newspaper Oman said: "The whole of Gulf society must act against criminal deeds like this."

"The least that can be done is to purge the area of all terrorist elements and achieve the utmost degree of cooperation between the states of the area to carry this out."

The independent newspaper Al Watan said: "The time has come to deal with the terrorism that has started to worsen in some Arab states... The time has come to put an end to these acts of sabotage and that will only be achieved by serious coordination and cooperation, firstly by Arabs and secondly internationally."

Jordanian news papers also condemned the bomb attack against the Emir of Kuwait (See page 4)

Lebanon war, settlements delayed peacemaking, U.S. envoy says

TEL AVIV (AP) — U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis said the Lebanon war was a "great diversion" that prevented a revival of Middle East peacemaking for nearly three years.

"I think we would have gotten to the place we are now in trying to renew the peace process a lot sooner if there had been no Lebanon war," Mr. Lewis told reporters during a weekend briefing.

The 54-year-old diplomat, who is due to retire at the end of the month after eight years as ambassador to Israel, helped negotiate the 1979 peace agreement between Egypt and Israel and the failed Lebanon-Israel accord of May 17, 1983.

"I think that the whole Lebanon war and the Lebanon era was a great diversion that made it impossible for Israel, the United States or Jordan to seek a way to continue the peace process," Mr. Lewis said.

Mr. Lewis suggested that efforts to restart peace talks and bring in Jordan were making good progress until Israel's invasion of

Lebanon in June 1982.

Peacemaking efforts initially stalled in 1980 after Jordan and the Palestinians refused to join the U.S.-sponsored Egyptian-Israeli talks on autonomy for the 1.3 million residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Lewis said one reason for the failure of the autonomy talks was that former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin pressed ahead with new Jewish settlements in the West Bank despite an understanding that they would be curtailed.

"Whether there was to be a freeze (on settlement-building) or not, I think there was a legitimate expectation that during the period of negotiations of autonomy arrangements maximum restraint would be used on the settlements in order to give the Palestinians... a sense of confidence about the process," Mr. Lewis said.

"There was some limited restraint for a while, but it didn't last very long. I do think the settlement policy conducted over those years was a factor in dis-

couraging autonomy negotiations from success," he added.

Mr. Lewis said that current peacemaking efforts which focus on creating a joint Jordan-Palestinian delegation to negotiate with Israel showed some promise of success.

"I think there is for the first time in several years enough momentum to give me some very modest hope that within a matter of months one might be able to launch direct negotiations..." he said.

The major stumbling block has been the role of Mr. Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Jordan and Egypt have insisted on PLO participation while Israel has rejected any 'dealings' with the organisation.

Mr. Lewis said he believed that a compromise could be reached without a change in either U.S. or Israeli policy regarding the PLO. "We do think it is possible to solve this question of representation by stressing the selection of individuals rather than looking at categories," the ambassador said.

EC organises airlift to fight famine in Sudan

NAIROBI (R) — West German and Belgian military transport aircraft will airlift food, medical supplies and seeds to famine-hit areas of Sudan this week, European Community Delegate (ambassador) Jean-Paul Jesse announced from Khartoum Sunday.

In a telex message to Reuters, Mr. Jesse said the airlift was being organised to combat a rapidly deteriorating food situation and to overcome land transport problems in parts of the Darfur region

ounced from Khartoum Sunday.

From Wednesday, two West German C-160 Transall aircraft and a Belgian C-130 Hercules will be stationed in Khartoum to operate a shuttle service between Port Sudan, on the Red Sea, and Nyala, Al Fashir and Geneina, in Darfur.

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

MAIN CHANNEL

15:00 Koran
15:20 Cartoons
15:45 Religious Programme
16:00 Children's Programme
16:20 Sports Magazine
16:30 Cooking Programme
16:50 Religious Programme
17:30 World of Oddities
18:00 Religious Programme
18:45 Religious Programme
19:00 Arabic Series
19:30 Prayers
20:00 News in Arabic
20:45 Programme Review
21:00 Arabic Series
21:45 Arabic Series
22:30 Tomorrow's Programme
23:00 Poetry
23:30 News in Arabic
23:10 Arabic Film
01:30 Religious Programme

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme: Anagram
18:30 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:30 Sports Magazine (French)
20:00 News in Hebrew
20:30 News in Arabic
21:00 Canadian Film
21:10 Grace Kelly, Part 2
22:00 News in English
22:30 Murder She Wrote

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & purely on 2500 KHz, SW
Tel: 77411-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsday
07:45 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Pop Session
08:30 News Summary
08:45 Pop Session Contd.
09:00 News Summary
09:15 Pop Session Contd.
09:30 News Bulletin
09:45 News in Hebrew
10:00 Over a Cup of Tea
10:15 Concert Hour
10:30 News Summary
10:45 News Summary
10:55 Old Favorites
11:00 The 15th Century A.H.
11:30 Pop Session
11:45 News Summary
11:55 Sports Round-up
12:15 Special Feature

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsday 07:30 Collecting Team
07:45 Hunger 07:50 Collections 08:00
World News 08:30 24 Hours: News
Summary 08:30 Letterbox 08:45 Recording
of the week 09:00 Newsday
09:30 Cathedral Heritage (An evening
with Mr. Thorne) 10:00 World News
10:30 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30
Sarah and Company 11:00 World News
11:05 Reflections 11:15 Collecting
Team 11:30 Anything Goes 12:00
World News 12:05 British Press
Review 12:15 Good Books 12:30 Financial
News 12:40 Look Ahead 12:45
Pebbles' Choice 13:00 News Summary:
"Science Fiction 13:15 Science in Action
13:30 Music Now 14:00 World
News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15
Jewels for a Princess: The Sonatas of
Scriabin 14:30 Album Time 15:00
Radio Newsday 15:15 Round-up of Britain
15:25 15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00
World News 16:05 24 Hours: News
Summary 16:30 Back: The 48 17:00
Outlook, Opening with News Summary
17:45 The Poem itself 18:00
Radio Newsday 18:15 Ready News-
man's America 18:45 Jewels for a
Princess: The Sonatas of Scriabin
19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15
Computer World 19:30 The Age of
Elegance 19:45 The World Today
20:00 World News 20:05 Bookchoice
20:15 My Music 20:30 Sports Round-
up 21:00 Newsday 21:30 Love and
Marriage 22:00 Outlook, Opening with
News Summary 22:30 Stock Market
Report 22:45 Pebbles' Choice 23:00
World News 23:05 24 Hours: News
Summary 23:30 Sports International
24:00 Newsday UK 01:15 Kings of
Swing 01:30 Counterpoint 01:40 World
News 01:50 The World Today 01:25
Book Choice 01:40 Reflections 01:45
Sports Round-up 02:00 World News
02:05 Commentary 02:15 Computer
World 02:30 Britain of Britain 1985

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition on famous German composers (Heinrich Schütz, Johann Bach, George Handel) at the Goethe Institute.

* "Visages de la Provence" at the French Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

* Miss Jacqueline Balenzi will deliver a lecture on "International Relations in the Near East/Mediterranean Area of the 1st and 2nd Millennium BC" at 6.30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

VIDEO

* "L'Inde en Fete" at 4.00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 641520
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 620409
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Amman Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 643555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Ota (Chapel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibdeh, 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 623383.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 771321.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyya, 816254.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 624 Cretie, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811255.

PRAYER TIMES

05:54 Fajr
05:51 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:33 Dhuha
16:14 Asr
19:36 Maghreb
21:12 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08)33200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

10:30 Agaba (RJ)
10:45 Kuwait (KU)
10:45 Cairo (CA)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:20 Beirut (RJ, MEA)
11:45 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
11:50 Larissa, Damascus (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:50 Frankfurt (LH)
07:50 Damascus, Athens (OA)
08:00 Beirut (RJ, MEA)
08:15 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
12:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
14:50 Cairo (MS)
15:40 Kuwait (KU)
17:40 Jeddah, Medina (SA)
18:15 Baghdad (IA)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Fine sunny weather expected during the day and the winds will be northerly. In Agaba Gulf, winds will be northerly and sea calm.

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 19, Agaba 34.
Humidity readings: Amman 22 per cent, Agaba 29 per cent.

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Agaba port:

— Motah
— Mont Ventoux
— Alia
— Vishva Prayas
— Cyprian
— Hual Rolla
— Lanka Mahapala

Amn Karar and Seas Company, Tel: 623224-9 at your service.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates
Local sell/buy rates in ffs
Belgian franc 67/ 62.5
Dutch guilder 115.5/ 116.4
Egyptian pound 288.3/ 292
French franc 42.7/ 43
Iraqi dinar 391.3/ 399
Japanese yen (for 100) 160.3/ 161.6
Kuwaiti dinar 132.3/ 132.8
Lebanese lira 25.3/ 26.3
Omani rial 1159.9/ 1161.6
Qatari rial 109.8/ 110.5
Saudi rial 111.1/ 111.7
Swedish crown 45.1/ 45.5
Syrian lira 154/ 156
Swiss franc 36/ 36.8
UAE dirham 109.2/ 109.9
U.S. sterling pound 505/ 511
U.S. dollar 403/ 407
W. German mark 130/ 132

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman Governorate 891228
Civil Defence Fire 198,199
Civil Defence Traid 27293, 272131
Civil Defence Quwatshah 770733
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630341
Blood bank 775303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 6220903
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 63941
Traffic police 8963901
Electric power Co. 636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 3330960

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Mufied Tannous 894964
Dr. George Sahouri 894546
Al Salam pharmacy 63

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet approves \$28m World Bank loan

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved a \$28 million loan agreement from the World Bank to contribute to financing the second urban development project. During its ordinary session held Sunday under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali, the cabinet also approved the Riyadh agreement for judicial cooperation, endorsed by the council of Arab justice ministers, and the Public Transport Corporation (PTC) draft law for 1985. Also approved by the cabinet was the issuing of commemorative stamp on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the Jerash festival.

Fayez receives congratulatory cables

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akaf Al Fayez Sunday received two cables of congratulations on the occasion of Independence Day from the president of the people's chamber in East Germany and the president of the Yugoslav national assembly. The cables wished Jordan further progress and prosperity.

Embassy staff exempt from permit fees

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour and Social Development has decided to exempt staff working in Arab and foreign consulates and embassies from work permit fees. The decision also exempts private house servants serving Arab and foreign diplomatic representatives from these fees. The decision is in implementation of the 1964 Vienna agreement which organises the work of embassy staff in host countries.

Muasher introduces fresh milk packages

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Rajai Muasher has decided that plastic containers used for packaging fresh milk and dairy products should be of a green colour to differentiate between them and other products made of powdered milk.

Land transport director leaves for Japan

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (JLTC) Eid Al Fayez left for Tokyo Sunday for a visit to the Japanese Mitsui company which specialises in land transport affairs. During the visit, expected to last several days, Mr. Al Fayez will look into the activities and programmes of several Japanese companies specialising in the manufacture of vehicles and car tyres. Mr. Fayez has just returned from Baghdad where he met with officials in charge of land transport and the chairman of the board of directors of JLTC and board members to discuss matters of concern to the company.

Jordan, Iraq review adoption of unified standards, measures

AMMAN (Petra) — A joint meeting of specialised committees in charge of specifications and measurements in Jordan and Iraq ended in Amman Sunday. The eight-day meeting discussed differences in Jordanian and Iraqi specifications and the prospect of adopting Jordanian specifications in goods exported to Iraq and Iraqi specifications for goods exported to Jordan, according to Mr. Salaheddin Tahar, director of the Standardisation and Metrology Department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade. He said that the meeting also reviewed ways of testing specifications and examined ways to unify standards. Issues of imports and exports and problems both countries face in this matter, as well as the role of measures and specifications, were discussed at the meeting, Mr. Tahar said. Also discussed, he said, were ways to facilitate the flow of national products between Jordan and Iraq.

Agreement has been reached to set up a committee to try to unify Iraqi and Jordanian specifications and measures and a unified system for conducting tests on specifications and legislation governing specifications and measures, Mr. Tahar said.

He said that points agreed on during the meeting will be referred to the proper authorities in both countries for approval before they are put into force in the coming few days.

Jordan as yet free of 'horror' diseases

By Josephine Zamaniri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With a growingly morbid interest, the general public of the West watches the ever expanding and often terrifying veneer of new bacteria and viruses — Legionnaires disease, a trillid of hospital and clinic bacteria and the real horror — AIDS and the other incurable, herpes. With almost every day, European and American newspapers unfold the "facts" — who is getting what, who is dying and how fast new diseases are spreading. But what of Jordan? Are such bacteria and viruses with us yet?

AIDS (Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome), the most publicised and shocking of the new diseases has not reached Jordan, although one death due to AIDS was reported in Lebanon and Israel has several acknowledged cases. The history of AIDS is scanty and research still inconclusive according to both clinical pathologists, Dr. Nabil Nassar of the doctors' laboratory in Jabal Hussein and Dr. Najwa Khouri Bulos, a pediatrician and infectious diseases expert.

Available information indicates that the virus was first noticed in Zaire in 1978. The causes are unknown, says Dr. Nassar, but extreme poverty and its accompanying malaises could be a factor and possibly also some form of genetic breakdown of the body's immune defences. The virus is virulent amongst Haitians as well.

In the West, for as yet unexplained reason the virus affects chiefly homosexuals. In the United States 80 per cent of all sufferers are male homosexuals or bisexuals, says Dr. Nassar. "Although early screening was not entirely effective. In 1978 only 1 per cent of the homosexual community carried anti-bodies against AIDS. However by 1983 this had risen to an astonishing 65 per cent."

AIDS

A further group highly sus-

ceptible to AIDS are people using intravenous injections, particularly where needles are reused. Those affected range from drug addicts to people receiving blood transfusions. Haemophiliacs using blood plasma extracts comprise a further high risk group. Dr. Khouri Bulos points out that in the United States alone there were some 1,500 AIDS cases in 1982, and the annual increase is quite alarming.

The AIDS virus has been identified in both the U.S. and France, continues Dr. Nassar. Dr. Khouri adds that the virus was initially noticed in America because of its association with *kaposi's sarcoma*, a rare skin cancer and several other obscure infections. She maintains that such indicative disorders have not been noted here and thus it is unlikely that the AIDS virus exists in Jordan.

The process of invasion of the body starts with the lymph nodes, says Dr. Nassar and ultimately breaks down the body's immune system. The incubation period can range from one to four years and the onset of the disease is sometimes noted by the enlargement of the lymph nodes but usually by secondary complications after the loss of immunity, "a cold that won't go away, lung and fungal infections, herpes and cancer," he adds.

Dr. Nassar points out that much of the original controversy about AIDS with doctors and hospital staff refusing to treat sufferers, is avoidable since subsequent research indicates that it is not an easily acquired disease and is contracted by direct contact with either blood or body fluids of carriers in much the same manner as hepatitis B.

The AIDS virus also threw into turmoil one of modern medicine's proudest achievements — the blood bank, as several deaths resulted from transfusions with infected blood. Recently, kits have been released to screen plasma donations for the virus. Both doctors do not believe that such precautions are necessary at the moment in Jordan.

Khreis outlines proposed JMC law

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Medical Council (JMC) is in the process of introducing several amendments to the existing medical law, Jordan Medical Association (JMA) President Hassan Khreis said Sunday.

Dr. Khreis said that the JMC recently held a special meeting chaired by Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh. The meeting, which was suggested by the JMA, aimed to amend several articles of the law which was passed on Feb. 16, 1982.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Khreis said that the new draft law stipulates that the JMC would be in charge of two basic tasks: Preparing schedules and syllabi for medical specialisations in Jordan and awarding JMC certificates to general practitioners after they complete an agreed training period. These

certificates would act as specialisation degrees in certain fields when ratified, he added.

According to the new draft law, the JMC would assess and then recognise specialisation degrees issued from foreign universities. Dr. Khreis pointed out. He said that this assessment would be conducted through a comprehensive clinical and practical evaluation of the post graduates.

Under the current law, doctors with specialisation degrees have to undergo an official evaluation test in order to be recognised.

The draft law, when implemented, is expected to cancel a JMC right to conduct a re-assessment of working doctors every five years. Dr. Khreis said that this practice is no longer implemented in advanced countries. The new amendment is expected to be passed to parliament for debate as soon as it is ready. However, the new draft does not cancel the assessment test of gen-

eral practitioners before they take jobs.

A number of doctors told the Jordan Times that the new draft is meant to change the activities of the JMC which, they said, does adhere to the principles for which the JMC was first established.

The doctors said that the JMC was first set up to assist doctors who could not afford to follow up specialisation studies abroad by holding specialisation courses locally and awarding JMC degrees to doctors after they passed the required examinations.

The second task of the JMC was to assess specialisation degrees obtained from foreign universities, as some postgraduates from certain universities seemed not to be up to international standards, the doctors said. All post graduate medical students are required to pass the JMC examination before they go into practice.

Heads of state send cables of congratulations to King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has received more cables of congratulations on the occasion of Independence Day, which was celebrated Saturday. Leaders of Arab and friendly countries sent cables to the King in which they expressed their best wishes of continuing good health to King Hussein.

The cables also wished the people of Jordan further progress and prosperity.

The cables were sent by the Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaher Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Sultan Hassan Bokhai of Brunei, the Thai monarch, President Li Xianian of China, Finnish President Mauno Koivisto and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda. Cables of congratulations were also received from Guinea President Colonel Lansana Conte, Polish head of state Prof. Wodzislaw Jaruzelski and President Abdo Diouf of Senegal.

Friendship society holds celebration in Moscow to mark Independence Day

MOSCOW (Petra) — President of the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society Alexei Sovanov has lauded the friendly relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union and said that the Jordanian people's struggle for enhancing their independence and achieving social and economic progress is continuing.

Mr. Sovanov was speaking at a ceremony held in Moscow to commemorate Jordan's 39th independence anniversary. He said that peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved unless Israeli forces pull out from all the occupied Arab territories and unless Israel recognises the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The Soviet Union strongly opposes all forms of aggression and exploitation of nations and continues to support the Arab people's just struggle for attaining leg-

itimate rights, Mr. Sovanov said in his speech. He added that the Soviet people will continue to back Arab struggles to repel Israeli aggression and to establish a just peace in the Middle East.

During the ceremony, held at the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society, the chairman of the Soviet committee for youth in the Moscow region made a speech paying tribute to Jordanian-Soviet relations which, he said, are based on peaceful co-existence, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Jordanian Ambassador to the Soviet Union Faleh Al Tawil, who attended the ceremony, spoke about the development of Jordanian-Soviet relations in all fields. He voiced hope that these strong ties will continue to develop for the best interests of both peoples.

Haj Hassan to attend ILO meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour Khalid Haj Hassan is to lead Jordan's delegation to the forthcoming International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference to be held in Geneva on June 7.

The conference agenda includes the review of two reports presented by ILO's board of directors and the organisation's director general on the ILO's achievements and activities during the past year.

The conference will also discuss the ILO budget for 1986.

The three-week conference will also hear reports from member states on progress and applications of labour agreements in these countries. The conference will also study and review a special agreement on wages and working hours and will also review steps taken by various states to combat the racist policies of South Africa.

The Jordanian delegation to the conference includes officials representing the government, representatives of employers and representatives of workers.

The Arab group to the conference will hold a preparatory meeting on June 5 to coordinate efforts and to review and assess progress made on ILO decisions.

Ministry, public sector must cooperate to solve doctors' unemployment, Hamzeh says

Minister outlines proposals to improve health services, ensure jobs for medical graduates

By Abdullah Nsour
Petra

AMMAN — The medical sector in Jordan suffers from unemployment in the sense that many physicians and specialists receive below average incomes and spend a good part of the day treating no patients, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh announced here Sunday.

He said in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the ministry has no plans to stop students from studying medicine as it has no means of doing that. What the ministry is concerned about is to try to find jobs for new graduates who pass the Jordanian Medical Association general examination and who are awarded a licence to practice medicine, Dr. Hamzeh said.

He said the ministry hopes to solve the problem of doctors' unemployment by cooperating with the private sector in finding jobs for these doctors in hospitals, and also by offering jobs to doctors in the ministry's health centres.

The ministry encourages new doctors to open clinics in remote regions and has been asking universities, banks, companies, community colleges and private schools to employ doctors for the treatment of students and employees in a bid to help create new jobs, the minister pointed out.

Regarding interns, he said, they are offered jobs in hospitals and health centres with nominal salaries and free meals.

According to Dr. Hamzeh, the Health Ministry intends to breathe life into an old project of establishing a medical corporation in Jordan designed to offer treatment for all citizens. This kind of project is bound to solve the issues of unemployment, doctors' charges and differences in the level of services offered to the patients, Dr. Hamzeh said.

He said such a corporation paves the way for introducing a

national health service for all citizens. The Ministry of Health hospitals, he explained, function on a different basis from other departments as they work all the year round, offering services to large numbers of people of all levels.

"We should work out a new system, different from that adopted by other government departments, to ensure improved medical services with more flexibility — particularly in matters involving cooperation with the private sector," Dr. Hamzeh said. "Without this," he continued, "we cannot enter as partners with the other sector in ensuring a comprehensive health service."

The Health Ministry, he added, should act as a partner with other sectors which ought to bear part of the burden in this endeavour. This is not impossible to carry out. But it is difficult to start, he pointed out. Dr. Hamzeh said that the first step in carrying out the project lies in issuing a law for the projected corporation.

Once this project is operational, the Health Ministry will be relieved of a large burden and will have to only shoulder a share as other parties will bear their own responsibilities, Dr. Hamzeh said. In the initial stages of implementing this project, Dr. Hamzeh said, the national health service will be optional for all individuals and organisations but in the later stages it will become compulsory.

He said he cannot make an estimate of the financial cost of this project at the moment, but he added what is important is that the



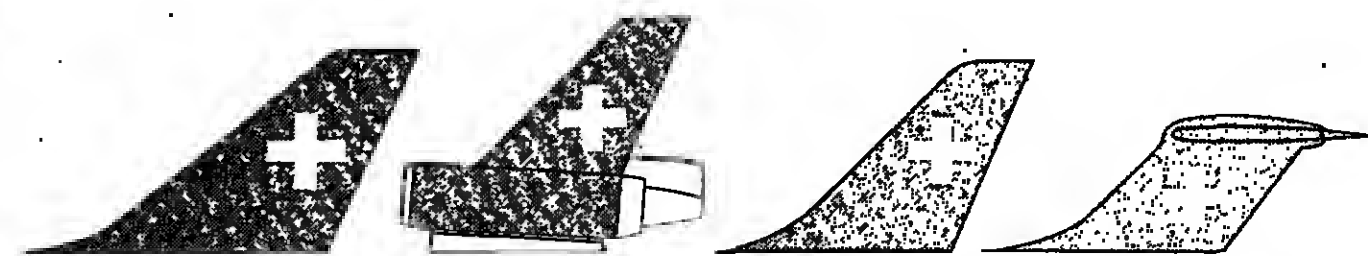
Zaid Hamzeh

Health Ministry will try to spread medical services to the largest possible sector of the population and will ease the congestion on government-run hospitals by sending patients to private-owned hospitals within the framework of a comprehensive system which would also allow the ministry to employ private-sector specialists in its own hospitals and health centres.

He said at present Al Bashir Hospital, for example, is under great pressure represented in the number of patients and injured people arriving daily at the emergency department. The great pressure tends to reduce the quality of service and therefore spreading the job to private and public hospitals is bound to solve the problem, he pointed out.

In the interview, Dr. Hamzeh announced that his ministry is preparing a new law for the Jordanian Medical Council (JMC). This law will be duly discussed before it is referred to the cabinet for approval, he said. The JMC is authorised to issue licences to doctors and holds examinations for specialists and it carries out other related jobs pertaining to the work of doctors in Jordan, Dr. Hamzeh said. He also said that the Ministry of Health intends to establish a medical academy which will be a national institution that can issue post graduate degrees in medicine.

The familiar emblem of a good flight.



B-747
Bombay
Boston
Chicago
Geneva
Hong Kong
Montreal
New York
Tokyo
Toronto
Zurich

DC-10-30
Abidjan
Abu Dhabi
Accra
Athens
Bagdad
Bangkok
Beijing
Bombay
Buenos Aires
Caracas
(as of June 8, 1985)
Chicago
Colombo
Dakar
Dar es Salaam
Dhahran
Douala
Dubai
Geneva
Hong Kong
Istanbul

Jakarta
Jeddah
Johannesburg
Karachi
Khartoum
Kinshasa
Kuwait
Lagos
Libreville
Manila
Monrovia
Montreal
Nairobi
Riyadh
Rio de Janeiro
Santiago de Chile
Sao Paulo
Singapore
Tehran
Tel Aviv
Tokyo
Toronto
Zurich

A310
Cairo
Geneva
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Milan
Paris
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DC-9
Algiers
Amman
Amsterdam
Athens
Barcelona
Basel
Belgrade
Brussels
Bucarest
Budapest
Casablanca
Cologne
Copenhagen
Damascus
Dublin
Dusseldorf
Frankfurt
Geneva
Göteborg
Hamburg
Helsinki
Istanbul
Larnaca
Linz
Lisbon
London

Madrid
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Manchester
Marseille
Milan
Moscow
Munich
Nice
Oporto
Oran
Oslo
Palma de Majorca
Paris
Prague
Rome
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Stockholm
Stuttgart
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Toulouse
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Vienna
Warsaw
Zagreb
Zurich

(Subject to change.)

This emblem should be all the more familiar because you see it the world over; and always on the roomiest, most luxurious and environmentally advanced types of aircraft.

Types, by the way, that bear not only the Swissair emblem but often the impress of Swissair itself.

For example, the DC-9 (which brings you every Wednesday and Friday from Amman to Zurich) turned out this big because we wanted to offer our passengers a wealth of room on European flights too. On the Boeing 747-357 we initiated the installation of much sophisticated technology as well as of more economical and environmentally

friendlier engines. The Airbus A310 did not satisfy us until the cargo compartment would take up to seven tons, and until other special requirements from cockpit to tail assembly had been met. We converted part of our DC-10 fleet into DC-10ERs (Extended Range), which save our passengers intermediate stops. And recently Swissair was the first airline to order eight new Fokker F-100s for European flights; they are even quieter than other jets in use today.

At Swissair new aircraft are constantly being replaced by the newest aircraft. The current example is the new

Fokker F-100, which is taking the place of the older DC-9 models. When the last Fokker F-100 is delivered, incidentally, all Swissair aircraft will be equipped for landings in extremely poor visibility (it's already 34 out of 48 planes).

Reaching your destination on time is, after all, another sign of a good flight.

swissair



Who will be next?

YET ANOTHER trace suffered the same fate of the endless numbers of typical ceasefires in the Lebanese capital Sunday when heavy fighting blocked Red Cross officials from entering Palestinian refugee camps and offering help to God knows how many victims of assaults by the combined forces of the Lebanese Shi'ite Amal movement and elements of the Army. Notwithstanding the Amal argument that it "really wanted" to allow medical relief convoys to enter the beleaguered camps, it is too obvious that it is another of the ploys of the Lebanese militia to wear down the courageous defenders of the camps and ensure that the least possible number of Palestinians survive the assault.

We have been hearing a lot about Arab "consultations" and "trace talks" aimed at ending the plight of the Palestinian defenders of the Beirut camps but nothing concrete has been achieved so far. Do those, on whom the Palestinians pin their hopes to do something to end the onslaught against their kinsmen in Beirut, realise that every wasted minute could also mean dozens of lives?

The Amal militia, which had pretended all along to be supporters of the Palestinians and their cause, is now following the footsteps of the Falangists, who upon instructions and guidance and protection from the invading Israeli force, murdered hundreds of Palestinians in cold blood in the same camps in 1982. In the new drama, however, Amal went a step further by not only seeking to exterminate the Palestinians but also by razing down buildings that house them with the intention of obliterating the last traces of the Palestinian existence in Lebanon.

The onslaught against the camps in Beirut has been going on for seven days, and neither the Arab League nor Arab countries have taken any concerted effort to stop the bloodshed. The Palestinian refugees are still being bombarded and still face death at the hands of the attackers. Though the defenders of the camps are sacrificing their souls and fighting heroically, there is little hope for their survival, unless an upper hand interferes in the last moment to save them.

Now, who would impose this upper hand and save the Palestinians? Will it be Syria which abandoned the Palestinians during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon? Will it be the Israelis who are gloating over the fighting among the Arabs? Or will it be the Arab League Council which has failed even to meet to discuss the situation?

The coming few days will no doubt have the answer, but they will not bring an end to the strife in Lebanon. The Amal men are only carrying out orders in annihilating the Palestinian refugees. We wonder who will be next?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Attempt at intimidation

THE TREACHEROUS attack on the Emir of Kuwait clearly points to the creeping danger threatening the whole Arab region and underlines the criminal intentions of our enemies. The assassination attempt clearly exposes designs by our enemies to undermine the security of the Gulf region now that Iran's aggression on Iraq has been completely aborted.

Needless to say that this crime is designed to force the Arab Gulf countries to abandon their present policy and stop helping Iraq to repel Iranian aggression. It is not only a form of blackmail against Kuwait but rather a defiance for the policies of the Gulf countries and a total disregard to Arab dignity.

The Arabs for their part should allow no delay to a strong reaction and a further financial and military assistance to Iraq, which infact is fending off danger posed against the Gulf region in particular. The Arabs should exhibit a strong will to defend their nationals and their interests against all dangers and Iranian criminal designs. Their will should be stronger than the car bombs and the explosives planted in the dark. Any faltering now would not doubt encourage the aggressors and the criminals to pursue their actions.

Al Dustour: Passiveness is bewildering

DESPITE the human losses and the great tragedy befalling the Palestinians living in the camps of Beirut, and despite the continuing onslaught by the Shi'ite Amal militia on the camps, the Arab countries are standing idly doing nothing to stop the massacres.

The bloodbath in Beirut has moved the U.N. Security Council to issue a statement demanding an immediate halt of criminal activities against the civilian population. The Arab League was expected to take speedy action to stop the tragedy because such action falls under its jurisdiction and is within its responsibility. Yet, the Arab League finds itself completely hand-tied by the lack of Arab consensus to hold an emergency meeting to discuss the situation.

It is clear that divisions among Arab states and disputes among their leaders have opened the way for more atrocities by the Shi'ite militia backed by certain Arab countries.

The Arab League's lack of action is an encouragement for the aggressors to pursue their crimes against the Palestinian people and to serve the objectives of the Israeli enemy. We are really dismayed and totally bewildered by the lack of action on the part of the Arab countries to stop the massacre being committed against innocent people.

Sawt Al Shaab: Conspiracy against Arabs

THE ASSASSINATION attempt on the Emir of Kuwait came as acts of terror are reaching a climax in the Arab arena. The current terrorist attacks on Arab nationals and interests are designed to destroy the will of the Arab people to defend themselves and protect their national interests.

The attack on the Emir of Kuwait is only another link in the long chain of acts of aggression on this nation, directed and carried out by its enemies and designed to impose hegemony and domination on its people.

The abortive attempt was a means of planting despair in the hearts of the Arab leaders and their nations, and a conspiracy against Arab existence. This is not the first time in which Kuwait is exposed to such conspiracies and Kuwait is not the only Arab country that is being exposed to these criminal actions. Our enemies are encouraged to launch more and more such criminal attacks on us as long as they find us in disarray. We should unify our ranks and build our intrinsic force to thwart all attempts against our existence.

The treacherous attack in Kuwait follows criminal actions in Lebanon against the Palestinian refugee camps and the on-going conspiracy against the Palestinian people in general. The terrorist attack in Kuwait is an extension to terrorist attacks carried out on Jordanian ambassadors and institutions abroad designed to weaken the Arab nation and impede its endeavours for solidarity and unity. This latest attack in Kuwait is a warning to the Arabs to beware the danger and take speedy action to thwart all conspiracies.

Guest Column

There has always been a summit in times of crisis

By Sa'd Abu Daiyeh

THROUGHOUT THE long Arab history, there have been many differences among Arab leaders that sometimes flared into cold war. But generally speaking, these differences and cold wars have not affected Arab strategy of joining forces whenever a common crisis cropped up. In the mid sixties, the cold war among Arabs was at its peak and the Arab World was divided into two camps: "revolutionary" and "reactionary", according to the propaganda campaigns which gave different versions of Arab national struggle.

In the midst of Arab differences and as inter-Arab relations

were plunging into gloomier spheres than ever, Egypt called for an Arab summit meeting. Jordan was the first Arab country to respond favourably to the call, followed by all the Arab states. It was something unexpected and unprecedented, disappointing the enemy's hopes that the Arabs will never meet. But they met and issued strategic decisions and resolutions which included the establishment of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the joint Arab command.

It is true that not so much was achieved as a result of the Arab summit and that differences persisted, but at least

the Arabs were able to meet and discuss their problems and to look into measures that could be taken to put things right again. But the cold war that preceded the summit was so damaging to the Arabs and their unity that when the 1967 aggression came it found the Arab countries already weak and in disarray.

After 1967, and despite the differences and the cold wars, Arab leaders continued to meet to plan actions, though the implementation of resolutions was slow or impossible.

At present, the situation is far worse than before because the Arabs cannot meet nor can

they plan or implement resolutions, and holding an Arab summit has become an aspired-for goal in itself and not a means for solving problems or planning a pan-Arab strategy. No crisis of any size or form can convene a summit nowadays, and Arabs do not even meet after the end of a crisis and an easing of a situation.

To make things even worse, new Arab axes that did not exist in the fifties and the sixties emerged. The Arabs lost Egypt as a confrontation state with Israel as a result of the bilateral Camp David treaty and the same fate almost befell Lebanon. Had the Lebanese gov-

ernment not abrogated its separate deal with Israel following the invasion of Lebanon, the Israelis would have been encouraged to apply the same rules of the game on other Arab countries.

In the face of increasing dangers and the present Arab situation, we all await a unanimous willingness on the part of Arab countries to meet at summit level, plan and implement joint action in the face of the many crises the Arab nation now has to deal with. Some of these crises have assumed dangerous proportions threatening the existence of the whole Arab nation. What we

want is to follow the policies of great world nations which whenever faced with a situation where the use of force is unsufferable they resort to defence and deterrence.

We, the Arabs, are in dire need of either strategy, deterrence, which is feasible and one that we afford to undertake, or justified use of force, which seems impossible at the present in view of the current balance of power in the region.

Holding an Arab summit is not a miracle if the Arabs show determination to handle diplomatic affairs skillfully and unify their efforts. Dreams can come true, if after the summit, the Arabs take practical steps to implement resolutions.

South Africa struggles over pace and colour of change

Change is in the air in South Africa as the old apartheid blueprint is redrawn, reports Anthony Robinson. But President P.W. Botha's efforts to control the pace of reform face strong resistance from an increasingly politicised black majority.

JOHANNESBURG — These are turbulent and confusing times in South Africa as the National Party government and a polarised multi-racial society grapple with the complexities of moving away from the old apartheid blueprint towards an uncharted future.

Change is taking place against unprecedented widespread unrest to black townships throughout the country which led President Pieter (P.W.) Botha to warn recently of "a dramatic escalation of the revolutionary climate".

The increasingly politicised and unorganised black majority is pressing for the abolition of apartheid and rejects as inadequate the piecemeal reforms offered by the government.

Powerful underlying forces such as black population growth and urbanisation are undermining the brittle stability, interspersed by violent protests, which has accompanied the previous 40 years of ruthless social engineering which led, among other things, to the forced removal of over three million people and the creation of separate black "homelands".

The same National Party which introduced apartheid is now claiming that the old blueprint of "separate development" is no longer appropriate to the needs of what is by far the most economically developed country in Africa.

But many whites, feeling guilt perhaps at the injustices heaped on the black majority and fearful of like retribution if blacks achieved power, are also deeply suspicious of the government's cautious reforms and long for the days of unchallenged white economic and political superiority.

After decades of banning, exiling and eliminating black political organisations such as the African National Congress and individuals like the black consciousness leader, Steve Biko, the government is now desperately searching for "responsible" black leaders with whom to negotiate a form of power-sharing which would satisfy "moderate" black aspirations while ensuring the survival and prosperity of the white and other minorities.

There are no quick or easy solutions in sight. The search for long-term solutions has been made more difficult by economic mismanagement which has led to a sharp recession, accompanied by high inflation and unemployment whose worst effects have been felt in the black townships and homelands.

In every one of the last five years, government spending has overshot its budgeted target, frequently by a large margin. Over-reliance on gold to bail the economy out, a plethora of control boards, over-restrictive building regulations, subsidies to farmers, "strategic industries" and consumers, and the costs of administering apartheid in all its forms, have saddled the economy with a mass of distortions.

These have raised costs and reduced productivity to the extent that inflation at 16 per cent (and still rising) is three times the average of South Africa's major trading partners. The low dollar price of gold and the three years of drought, which this year broke in the nick of time, have proved two straws which nearly broke the back of the economy and contributed to the 40 per cent depreciation of the rand in 15 months.

On March 18, Mr. Barend du Plessis, the new finance minister, backed by the full support of President Botha and his cabinet, managed to retrieve some of the government's lost credibility with his restrictive budget.

"We shook the state spending tree seven times to get the increase in spending down below the rate of inflation this year," says Mr. Du Plessis.

"Now we have to prune the structure of spending, introduce zero-based budgeting to question the value of doing things and make

sure that the bureaucracy does not carry on in its own way doing things which are no longer necessary or which impede the reforms to which we are committed."

But the bitter legacy of years of economic mismanagement and the heavy reliance on an expanded police and defence force to maintain laws and a form of order rejected by the black majority has been revealed with a vengeance over the last few traumatic months.

The first death in the black township unrest occurred in February last year when a 15-year-old black schoolgirl, taking part in a school boycott in protest against inadequate black education, was run over by a police armoured vehicle in Atteridgeville, near Pretoria.

As student boycotts and protest meetings spread through other townships in the Vaal Triangle, centred on Johannesburg, and the Eastern Cape, they became intertwined with the broader black opposition to the new constitution spearheaded by the United Democratic Front (UDF).

The rise of the UDF, a loose coalition of over 645 affiliated church, community and trade union organisations which claims over two million members, is one of the most significant developments of the past 18 months.

It has been strongly attacked by the government as a front for the banned African National Congress (ANC). More than 40 of its leaders have been arrested on treason charges connected with the boycott of elections to the coloured and Asian houses of the new tri-cameral Parliament and the two-day work stoppage in the Transvaal last November.

In September, school boycotts and protest against the new constitution came together with a new potent economic ingredient — the effect of rising inflation and unemployment on the already hard stretched black townships.

One week before Mr. P.W. Botha was installed as new state president with almost Gaullist powers and prerogatives, the townships of the Vaal erupted in open revolt. The spark which ignited the flames was the rent increases introduced without prior consultation by the new black councils, created under the 1982 Black Local Government Act.

In a pattern which has since become familiar, the victims came in two categories. The first were those shot by riot police. The second were black councillors, elected a few months earlier at polls

boycotted by the overwhelming majority of the black electorate. Their property and even lives have been destroyed by angry mobs who see them as corrupt "sell-outs" and surrogate symbols of white oppression.

Since September, more than 300 people have lost their lives in rioting, police repression and black-on-black violence which has spread across the country, including to townships in rural areas of which most people had never heard.

In February, the plight of millions of the poorest blacks, illegal squatter refugees from poverty in the homelands, was highlighted by 18 deaths in the squatter township of Crossroads, near Cape Town.

Fears that their shackles were to be torn down and that they would be forcibly removed, either back to the homelands or the new township of Khayelitsha on the Cape Flats, were behind the outburst. It was defused only by a quick reversal of policy by Mr. Gerrit Viljoen, the minister for cooperation and development.

By this time, however, foreign and domestic criticism of police tactics was rising. It reached a new pitch on the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre of March 1960. Police in armoured cars shot and killed 19 people at Langa, near Uitenhage, in the Eastern Cape.

Amid calls for the resignation of Mr. Louis Le Grange, the minister for law and order, President Botha ordered a commission of enquiry under Justice Doodat Kaonemeyer. Evidence heard by the judge, including that of the police officers involved, strongly contradicted the version of events given to parliament by the minister. It also revealed a breakdown in the police chain of command, a disregard for official riot-control methods, based on the theory of minimal violence, and a lot about the attitude of some policemen to the blacks they were policing.

Much hinges on the findings of the Kaonemeyer Commission and how the government implements its recommendations. The widespread nature of the unrest has already forced the government to bring in the army and the railway police to back up the 46,000-strong regular police force. It has to retain their confidence.

Equally, however, it has to reassure public opinion, especially black opinion, that the police are not a law unto themselves but subject to clear rules of behaviour and accountable for their actions.

Restoring, or rather creating, confidence in the police is vital because the maintenance of public order is seen by the government as an essential prerequisite for the kind of orderly, evolutionary change

to which it is committed. But equally vital, and in the long run, the crucial issue is its ability to find valid and credible negotiating partners among the black community.

If the past few months have done nothing else, they have demonstrated that the ability of 4.7 million whites to control the lives of 26 million blacks (including those in the four "independent" homelands) cannot be maintained indefinitely. By the end of the century there will be five million whites and nearly 40 million blacks.

The question is not whether to talk, but who to talk to. The government remains convinced that the overwhelming majority of blacks are conservative and more interested in economic advancement than formal political emancipation. This view is backed up by various surveys of black opinion which show that what blacks want most is a good job, good education for their children, a decent house and abolition of the pass laws, influx control and other apartheid-induced affronts to their freedom, civil rights and human dignity.

Most of the "reforms" announced by the government so far tend, albeit balingly and incompletely, in this direction. They include:

Recognition of the permanence of millions of urban blacks in "white" South Africa, and of the need to give them some form of political representation.

A promise to revise the most "negative and discriminatory" aspects of influx control.

Introduction of 99-year leaseholds and possibly freehold rights for blacks.

An end to the coloured preference rules in the Cape.

A moratorium on forced resettlement.

A new housing policy which will allow controlled shanty-towns and self-built housing and a series of similar changes.

Another symbolic pillar of apartheid legislation fell when the government accepted recommendations of a multi-racial Parliamentary Committee to scrap the laws preventing mixed marriages and outlawing sexual relations across the colour line.

It is a sign of the deep polarisation of opinion within the country, however, that the changes announced thus far have been denounced as "betrayal" by conservative whites, criticised as "too little, too late" by foreign governments and domestic liberals and dismissed as "cosmetic" or irrelevant by most blacks.

After decades of adhering to a comprehensive apartheid blueprint, the government is now facing an uncharted future. Ministers and top civil servants give the imp-

ression that they would like to be bolder. Paternalism is out. Power has to be shared. Means must be found for blacks to shoulder more responsibility, not only politically but economically. Black enterprise must be encouraged, not frustrated as in the past. Blacks themselves must become employers, create jobs and build their own homes.

Much of the confusion and ambiguity which surround government actions and stated intentions reflects the need to address several mutually suspicious audiences at once.

Change, coupled with unrest in the townships, is deeply unsettling to many whites, including powerful elements within the bureaucracy, the security forces and the army, as well as among blue-collar workers whose privileges are most at risk from black advancement. It is no coincidence that the more liberal views are expressed by the better-educated and more highly skilled, whose futures are more secure.

Painfully, the National Party government has come round to accepting that the split in Afrikanerdom, provoked by the new constitution, is permanent, and it is seeking a new consensus of the centre. The message of black frustration and anger coming from the townships is too strong to ignore. It has taken to heart the warning by Chief Gatsba Buthelezi and other black leaders that those who think that the extreme right-wing Conservative Party is more of a threat to stability than 22 million unfranchised blacks are deluding themselves.

The dilemma for the government is acute, to say the least. On the one hand, a great majority, hungry for meaningful reform which will improve their lives. But how can it find black leaders with real authority to accompany it along the path of reform without losing control of the speed and direction of change and without provoking a possibly violent white reaction?

Indeed, do such black leaders exist or have they already been frightened off by the fate of black councillors and others who have become victims of violence against so-called "sell-outs"?

The government would like to believe that negotiating partners can still be found among leaders of the black homelands, black councillors and black business and church men. In his speech, opening the new parliament in January, President Botha offered an "informal, non-statutory forum where black and other leaders who forswore violence would have access to the highest level of decision-making." So far there have been few takers.

There are black leaders like Chief Buthelezi who, while sharing the most universal ideological commitment of blacks to the principle of one-man, one-vote, is so record as understanding white fears that this would lead to their being swamped and their identity destroyed by the majority, and would work for some sort of federal compromise. But he, too, demands scrapping the new constitution, abolishing the homelands system and the repeal of apartheid legislation as a prerequisite of talks.

It is difficult to escape the conclusion that, at some time, the government will have to urbanise the African National Congress and talk to its leaders. It is being urged to do so, not only by blacks but also by sections of liberal and "verligte" white politicians, academics and businessmen.

President Botha himself appeared to take the first step towards a dialogue with the ANC back in January when he offered to release Mr. Nelson Mandela and other jailed ANC leaders if they agreed to abandon their strategy of violent overthrow of the government and abide by the laws of the country.

The offer was rejected both by Mr. Mandela and by Mr. Oliver Tambo, the leader in exile. But the last word has almost certainly not been said by either side.

Complicating the difficult search for black/white dialogue and a new *modus vivendi* is the fact that it is taking place under the glare of unprecedented international media and political attention and against the background of threats of economic sanctions and disinvestment.

International attention is recognition of the potential here for a tragedy of considerable proportions and bitter conflict whose effects would reverberate way beyond South Africa and further destabilise a continent already facing almost insurmountable political and economic problems.

The pressures are increasing for the government to spell out more clearly and unambiguously its reformist goals and for black leaders to state more strongly their acceptance of a positive future for white Africans in a more equal multi-racial society, with guarantees for minorities.

But time is not in South Africa's favour and demands are rising on all sides to go further and faster towards the dismantling of apartheid and the creation of a juster, more integrated society. Difficult days lie ahead — Financial Times news feature.



Sheikh Jaber: Kuwait's leading political architect

From Reuters

KUWAIT — Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, who survived an assassination attempt in Kuwait Saturday, became Emir of the Gulf state in December 1977, but had been one of its leading policy architects for over a decade before that.

He presides over a population of 1.7 million people, of whom 40 per cent are Kuwaiti nationals, in a desert state covering less than 18,000 square kilometres.

It has large oil reserves, and enjoys one of the world's highest incomes per capita estimated at \$20,000 in 1983 for Kuwaitis, or \$12,645 for the population as a

whole.

Born in 1926, Sheikh Jaber is the 13th ruler of the 240-year-old Al-Sabah dynasty, and third son of the 10th Emir, Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber.

He held senior oil and economic posts in the 1950s then, after Kuwait became independent in 1961, was appointed minister of finance and economics in 1962. In 1964 he became minister of finance and oil, and added the industry portfolio soon after.

He was appointed prime minister in December 1963, after his cousin, Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, became Emir.

In keeping with an arrangement to alternate the crown between

the two branches of the ruling family — the Al-Salems and Al-Sabahs — he was made crown prince in May 1966.

The two men were close, and held similar viewpoints on how to achieve national goals. As a result, Sheikh Jaber was given considerable sway over economic policy.

A feature at the time was the takeover by the state of its natural wealth through nationalisation of the oil industry.

Another major thrust of his programme was to reduce the country's dependence on oil revenue by diversifying its sources of income, while also using its oil wealth to develop a sophisticated

welfare state.

On the foreign front, Kuwait was careful to tread a middle path between the superpowers, balancing reliance on the West with ties with the Communist world.

Sheikh Jaber's first official foreign visits were to China and the Soviet Union in 1965, and in ensuing years diplomatic relations were established with both countries, as well as several other eastern bloc states.

Although Kuwait has encouraged its Gulf neighbours to follow its non-aligned lead, it remains the only Gulf Arab state to have diplomatic relations with the Eastern Bloc.

By 1976, Sheikh Sabah's health

was failing and Sheikh Jaber appeared already to be the effective ruler of the country. He succeeded to the throne when his cousin died of a heart attack.

In the Middle East, Sheikh Jaber initially sought to steer a middle course between radical and conservative states. But with the split in the Arab World following the Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt, Kuwait has tended to the side of moderates led by Saudi Arabia.

Kuwait joined five other Gulf states — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman — to form the Gulf Cooperation Council in 1981.

King addresses Brown University Faculty and students

King: Mideast conflict is direct result of abandoning principles, ignoring the law and distorting facts

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein Saturday said that the Middle East conflict is the direct result of abandonment of principles, ignoring the law and distorting the facts and called on the U.S. to reassert its moral leadership and authority as a way to solve the Palestinian problem. In an address to the 1985 graduates of Brown University, which includes Prince Faisal, King Hussein said that the Middle East has been suffering for years from the violations of the principles of self-determination, supremacy of the law and the protection of human rights. Following is the full text of the King's address:

Queen Noor and I are delighted to be with you today, and we are grateful for the warm reception and the kind introduction. It is a pleasure for me to address the class of 1985 of this great university. This is a proud moment for all of you who have just completed an important stage in the most noble of endeavours — the education of the human mind. It is one of history's truest lessons that enlightened citizens are the most valuable asset a nation can possess, and that education is the finest legacy one can pass to future generations.

This is my first visit to Rhode Island, and although I have only been here two days I must agree with those who coined the phrase: "Small is beautiful". I might add that this is one of the things that Jordan and Rhode Island have in common. I share the view of the Italian navigator, Giovanni da Veragano, who, while exploring North America for the king of France in 1524, was so captivated by the beauty of Narragansett Bay, he lingered here for a fortnight. It is said that from this visit, Rhode Island not only earned its distinction as America's "first vacation land" but it may have been the origin of the first "two week vacation with pay" on record.

All of you in this class of 1985, like those who have preceded and those who will follow you, will move on to other stages in your lives, enriched by the knowledge, the inspirations, the visions and the moral values you have acquired here.

Your responsibilities will change in many important ways when you leave the academic world for the world of government, communications, business and science. Although your learning will continue through your experiences in the careers and lives you choose, you will begin to be judged by your contribution to society and to mankind. Your role will be reversed. You will be giving rather than taking. Giving back to deeds what you have taken in learning. This will be your new responsibility and your life-long challenge.

Your achievements at Brown form the foundation for the contributions you will make. You are privileged to have had the advantage of developing that foundation at an institution as renowned as this university, for its dedication to academic excellence, for the distinction of its faculty and for the quality of its students.

You were also privileged to have spent your past four years in Providence, which is so steeped in the impressive legacies of the early history of your nation's independence. By a special coincidence, Jordan is celebrating the 39th anniversary of its own independence this very day. We are very happy to be celebrating it with the class of 1985 at a time when you are celebrating the joys of your own "freedom".

Like other proud parents here today, I have a son, Faisal, who is graduating. I am both grateful and envious that he is one of those privileged to have the benefits of a Brown education and a Brown degree. I am grateful because I know his four years at Brown will equip him well for whatever he aspires to in the future.

I am envious because I did not have the privilege of a formal university education. I have always regretted that fact, but because of the circumstances of my life, it was not possible. I have received, from time to time, honorary degrees out

of the consideration of some distinguished universities. But even though the degrees are called honorary, they do not warrant the same honour as the hard-earned degrees which you will receive on Monday.

By force of circumstances, I assumed my present role in life when I was only 17 years old, about the time most of you, and my own contemporaries, commenced their university education. But I did graduate as an officer from the British Royal Military Academy. It proved to be something of a prophetic experience, in that our part of the world has been immersed in wars ever since I assumed the throne.

Although Sandhurst did not make me a military strategist, subsequent events have almost qualified me for such a profession. From the nature of my job description, I have also had to become something of a political scientist, and in the process I have been exposed to a bit of modern history. While I have not had the benefit of instruction from your distinguished faculty, I might be able to pass some of your course and, maybe, if I studied hard enough, to earn a degree. I am happy, however, not to be put to the test.

I think the fact I did not enjoy the full advantages of a formal university education is in part responsible for the very strong commitment I have always felt toward the education of the young people in my own country. I wanted them to benefit from the opportunity I missed. As a result, Jordan has devoted an extraordinary amount of its funds and efforts to expand and improve its educational system. We are a country with limited natural resources. Our principal resource is human — our people, especially our young people, who constitute the majority of our population. That is why it has been so important for us to improve, by education, the quality of our most valuable resource.

I know you have probably had enough statistics for the year, but let me give you a few to describe the progress we have made, and in which the entire country takes pride.

In 1946, the year of our independence, we had 167 primary and secondary schools. Today we have over 3,000; then we had 17,000 students, today we have 900,000; within that period our teachers increased from 500 to 35,000; students made up three per cent of the population in 1946, they now comprise 45 per cent; we had no institutes of higher learning in 1946, today we have three universities and 50 community colleges. A high percentage of our students have studied abroad, many in the United States, of which Faisal is one of thousands of examples.

That is enough statistics, but it gives you an idea of the priority we have placed on education and what we have been able to accomplish as a result.

The education of our young people has, indeed, proven to be our most valuable and successful investment. Jordan now has highly trained members of all the professions and trades, so many in fact that we cannot accommodate them in Jordan. As a consequence, many are applying their training and learning in other countries in the Arab World, where their skills are needed and welcomed. Our graduates are not only contributing to the needs of their own and other countries, but also to their national aspirations. As a group they have con-



As with most conflicts, the dimensions are not only moral, they are also human. In my part of the world, these involve one and a half million Palestinians who have been under military occupation for the past eighteen years, and another two million who have been uprooted from their homes, many of whom still reside in refugee camps, exiled and stateless. This is the human dimension that morality must address.

These millions of Palestinians hope and believe, as I do, that it is time for America to reassert its moral leadership and authority around the globe. It is an event for which the world yearns and which it would welcome and support.

tributed immeasurably to the rapid strides that have been made in institution-building, which our ancient societies did not possess when they joined the community of nations, as independent states, only three or four decades ago. We have come a long way. But, we still have a long way to go to meet the standards we have set. The products of our educational system have been essential to the progress we have made. Each new class of graduates will be equally essential to the progress we make in the years to come. In that sense, you share common bonds and a common purpose with the graduates from our universities, whose degrees I will be conferring when I return home.

The degrees and the knowledge you have acquired are, indeed, important for your life's work. But in my experience, as a compulsory student in the school of continuing education, I believe there is something that will prove even more important to you, and that is the standard of values which you have acquired, or derived, in the course of your education. It is important, because whatever careers you follow, or lives you lead, the most important decisions you make will involve values, not things. They will involve questions, not of whether this will work or not, but of whether this is right or that is wrong. These are the most difficult decisions. They are, also, the most profound in their consequences.

Unless one has developed a valid standard for moral judgement, one will flounder, not flourish, in whatever one undertakes. This is the most important lesson I have learned in the course of my experience. I want to share some of this lesson with you as you enter your new life and assume your new responsibilities.

One of the great challenges you will face is that a part of the world, and some in it, do not have, or do not believe, in a standard of moral values. Many in the world today operate on the basis of practical expediency. You have undoubtedly observed this yourselves.

It has become a philosophy of life, for many. This is true among nations as well as among individuals. The dilemma of our age is the combination of unprecedented material progress and systematic spiritual decline. The decline in public and private morality can be witnessed in the market place as well as the forums of international diplomacy. In the past, a man's honour and reputation were his most valuable assets. Business agreements were made with a handshake. Today one might be well advised to check the "bottom line" and read the "small print". This is not to indict the business or international communities, for each contains members of the highest character and noblest virtues. It is simply a reflection of the environment in which these communities are surrounded.

I have found, in my experience, that expediency, whether it is practical or not, is an unreliable guide for behaviour. Human behaviour must be guided by a higher principle. Practicality has its place, but only within a framework of values, which all men of good will share.

I have become convinced — the hard way — that the only reliable guideposts for responsible and respectable conduct, including foreign policy formulations and international relations, is a true composite of morality, legality and reality. When this trio is not in harmony, policies and actions go askew. Contrary to popular pragmatic precepts, I have discovered that moral sense and common sense are not mutually exclusive. As a practical matter they are synonymous. Indeed, unprincipled policies are ultimately and inherently impractical. The sooner one learns that simple lesson the simpler one's life becomes.

Where does one find this code of moral values which, as I am suggesting, should play an important part in your lives? Well, most of the major religions, in addition to their beliefs regarding divinity, espouse common laws of morality. It should not be strange

that the values cherished by all the three major religions are the same, since they originate from a common source. For example, Islam, the predominant religion in the Middle East, accepts, as an integral part of its religious teachings, both the Old and New Testaments. If this commonality of moral traditions among the world's major religions does not say something about the universality of religion, it does say something about the universality of mankind.

So, religion provides one common traditional source for a standard of moral values. Whatever one's private religious beliefs may be, moral standards are not sectarian. By their nature, they do apply to, and can be shared by, all of us. For your further consideration I would also suggest that even a young person can look to the great traditions of this world, without seeming to be "old fashioned". Americans can also look in their own heritage for the standard of values of which I speak. Your Declaration of Independence contains a powerful but simple statement of principle which, if applied today, would revolutionize the world. "All men are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness". This is the most profound curtailment of the power of government and rulers, and the most legitimate rationale for the universal rights of man that I have ever seen enunciated in such few words. Your system of jurisprudence and your Bill of Rights are derived from moral principles which enshrine the sanctity of life and all that this conveys in a political society.

You can also look much closer towards home, to the early history of this state of Rhode Island and the origins of this city of Providence, as another source of the principles which should guide you. Outraged by the violations of its "inalienable rights", Rhode Island proclaimed its independence from Great Britain on May 4, 1776 — two months before the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia — and became America's first free republic. Rhode Island was also the first free haven of religious worship in the new world when Roger Williams and his followers, escaping oppression, settled here in 1636. He named this city in commemoration of God's Providence. I wonder how many places there are in the world today in which the people would attribute their good fortune to the benevolence of God and name their capital Providence. Out of gratitude to God for the blessings.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

One of the most dramatic examples of the gaps between the world's technological progress and moral rectitude is nuclear weapons. The material tools of destruction have become so powerful that the world now lives under the constant shadow of total annihilation. The stakes are enormous; and mistakes never carried a higher risk. It is no longer a question of self defence; it is a question of self-preservation. Nuclear war is not a military problem, it is a moral dilemma. The nuclear race involves not only a negation of law, but a negation of morality. The problem cannot be solved by practical expediency. Its only resolution lies in the application of the moral imperatives on which our religions and your nation was founded. This problem will be one of your generations' greatest challenges. How well equipped you are to handle it could determine your destiny.

My friends,

Among the familiar principles which are fundamental to your political beliefs are self-determination, Supremacy of the law and the protection of human rights. The fact that each of these principles is violated on a con-

tinuing basis throughout the world, is the source of most of the world's greatest problems. It also underscores the special need for dedicated leaders to reestablish the principles which are being violated. This is a crusade America could lead and one your generation should join.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The area from which I come, the Middle East, has been suffering for years from the violations of these very principles.

The Arab-Israeli conflict is a prime example of dealing with an international problem on the basis of expediency at the expense of traditional, moral and legal values. As a policy, it has proven to be not only prohibitively expensive and dangerous, but morally bankrupt — for everyone. This conflict has caused four major wars and more suffering and destruction than I can describe. It is a classic case of missed opportunities, unfulfilled obligations, unmet responsibilities and morally irreconcilable practices and policies. It is the source of many of the lessons I have learned.

The guideposts of morality, legality and reality have been consistently violated. The Middle East conflict is the direct result of the abandonment of principles, of ignoring the law and distorting the facts. It is time to deal with the issue in terms of its moral dimensions, and in terms of those principles, which, in many ways, the United States fostered and bequeathed to the rest of the world. They are the basis of the moral leadership for which your country has been admired. It is the application of those principles to the issues of our problem which are directly needed now.

As with most conflicts, the dimensions are not only moral, they are also human. In my part of the world, these involve one and a half million Palestinians who have been under military occupation for the past eighteen years, and another two million who have been uprooted from their homes, many of whom still reside in refugee camps, exiled and stateless. This is the human dimension that morality must address.

These millions of Palestinians hope and believe, as I do, that it is time for America to reassert its moral leadership and authority around the globe. It is an event for which the world yearns and which it would welcome and support. I also believe that you, the 1985 graduating class of Brown University, could, in your individual capacities, play a major role in upholding your nation's ideals. I can think of no contribution which would be more beneficial to the welfare of the world, more rewarding to America and more satisfying to your good selves.

One of the goals of education is to seek the truth. Investigating and understanding the various aspects of any problem is fundamental to that search. This will require you to broaden your knowledge regarding the many problems and issues which confront the world. The truth and principles which you must seek to uphold are by definition objective, consistent and indivisible. They must be applied by you in the same manner. You cannot be selective and still uphold the noble traditions of your great nation. This will be your finest contribution and highest achievement.

Dear friends,

May I congratulate you again on your successes. This is your day. Enjoy the happiness it has brought you and which we share. I hope you will have an opportunity to visit Faisal and our family in Jordan. We would welcome you with great pleasure. It has been an honour to meet and address you. May God bless you on this day and all of the days and years of your lives.

Thank you.

Randa Habib's
Corner

Save children the bloodscene

WE HAVE cinema theatres now, beautiful ones, clean, modern and comfortable. One can safely go and see a film without the fear of getting suffocated with cigarette smoke or bothered by the noise from nut-eaters. That's why, everytime someone recommends a film for children, I rush to take my children to see it. "Nothing can be compared to the excitement of seeing a film at the cinema. T.V. and video films are not like it," the children tell me.

At the cinema, they are impressed with the size of the screen and the obscurity surrounding them. The sound system makes the story more animated, and the children are taken for an hour and a half into a different fascinating world.

Alas, the occasions are rare for children to go to the movies in Amman. All the films shown are either only for adults or too violent.

The other day, while waiting for an American comedy to start, the "soon on this screen" where successively shown: Next week's show was a film with a lot of killing and bloodshed. The one for the week after could hardly envy the former one in terms of violence. The same goes for the one of the week after the next week one, not to mention promoting bloodbath-films shown in other theatres. Every now and then, I had to cover the eyes of my little girl so that she would not be terrified by scenes of the kind.

Nonetheless it shouldn't be difficult to have a special programme for children on Fridays and Sundays that introduces them to films made for them and for their taste.

Ten O'clock morning shows suitably can be so helpful. Our children need the little entertainment that a good film from time to time, can provide. In those sessions, for God's sake, don't show them the "soon on this screen."

Paintings Picasso kept to himself to go on exhibit

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuter

NEW YORK — Pablo Picasso not only painted Picassos, he collected them. Now, for the first time, the public will get a chance to see the spectacular works he kept at home for himself.

An exhibition of 81 of these rarest of choice Picassos will open on June 21 at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, offering an intimate, inside look at the man that many consider to be the greatest artist of the 20th century.

"Picasso liked to say that sometimes when he did a painting that forced him further, he had problems parting with it. These are some of those paintings," said Montreal Museum of Fine Arts Director Alexander Gaudier.

Picasso also kept portraits of his children, wives and mistresses and the show, whose paintings were selected by Picasso's widow Jacqueline, might be considered the world's most unusual family album.

Instead of photographs of family and friends, there are Picasso paintings in all his styles and all his moods.

There are paintings of son Paulo dressed in a clown's costume for his first fancy dress ball, Jacqueline holding a cat, ex-wife Françoise with their children and ex-mistresses Marie-Thérèse Walter and Dora Mar.

There is also a sketch of his first wife, Olga, a Russian ballerina, that shows their relationship in a rare moment — when they were happy.

"Ten years later, Picasso painted her with hatred and violence. In this painting he is very much in love," said John Richardson, the former head of Christie's auctioneers who is one of the world's leading Picasso experts.

Mr. Richardson and Mr. Gaudier were in New York recently, armed with slides previewing the show that represents an art world coup for Canada's largest museum of fine arts.

There have been other Picasso shows, but never one of the artist's own collection of Picassos.

"I think this show is the quintessence of Picasso," said Mr. Richardson as the slides flickered across a screen, detailing a history of the artist from one of his first paintings, done in 1885, to works painted shortly before his death in 1973 aged 91.

Of particular interest are airless, drably-coloured paintings

Picasso did during World War II of Dora Mar.

"He was cooped up with her during the war and she went mad. These are grey, ugly paintings reflecting Picasso's statement that 'I have not painted the war, but the war is in all my paintings,' said Mr. Richardson.

With the end of the war, Picasso's work exploded again in vibrant colours, and works from the post-war era until his death are amply displayed in the show, including Picasso's portrait of an African from Mozambique who wound up in Spain as a matador. Picasso, who often used bullfights for his paintings, was so taken with having gone to one in which the matador was black that he painted him from memory the day after the fight.

"He gave the painting to Jacqueline and she refused it because she said she was not worthy, but he insisted she take it anyway and wrote on the back 'for Jacqueline on her feast day, 14 October 1970,'" Mr. Richardson said.

Also on display are works that show Picasso's concern with sexual imagery in the last days of his life when he equated male potency with artistic creation, and a virtually unknown portrait of a nude woman from his early "blue period" that Mr. Richardson calls one of "Picasso's unknown masterpieces".

The idea for the exhibition was suggested by Quebec's minister of cultural affairs, Clement Richard, who thought the time was right for an exhibit of the Picassos the public has never seen.

Jacqueline Picasso agreed and selected the works. According to Mr. Gaudier, "She knew each painting as if it was one of her children".

The show will be seen only in Montreal at the request of Mrs. Picasso.

"She said Montreal was the world's second largest French-speaking city and she was a Frenchwoman. Montreal represents for her a great international city that is also French," Mr. Gaudier said.

For the Montreal museum, the exhibit marks a turning point. It expects to make a profit on admissions and to finally draw international attention to its collection.

"This is really a coup, the beginning of everything for the Montreal Museum," Mr. Gaudier said.

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AMMAN JORDAN

Cruz loses 800 metres race, expresses philosophical relief

SAN JOSE, California (R) — Long striding Joaquim Cruz, the Olympic gold medalist, lost an 800 metres race for the first time in almost two years Saturday — to his immense relief.

The 22-year-old Brazilian finished second to American record holder Johnny Gray in the biggest surprise of the Bruce Jenner Classic, the first meeting of the new Grand Prix athletics circuit.

And afterwards Cruz admitted he was glad the unbeaten stretch was over and the pressure was finally off. "Everyone talks of winning, that I haven't been beaten in a long time. It was upsetting me," said the Brazilian, whose last 800 metres defeat was in the World Championship final in August 1983.

"I'm not unhappy at all," he added philosophically. "I was beaten by someone in good shape. He (Gray) had in run extremely well and he did."

Cruz, who said he had been concentrating recently on endurance work, was caught for speed

when Gray made his bid for the line 200 metres from the finish. The American held on to win by 0.13 seconds in one minute 45.76 seconds.

Cruz's last defeat of any kind was over a mile in Los Angeles in May 1984.

"I felt good but I didn't have the speed," Cruz said. "I'll work on it, though. It's a long season."

Cruz said his coach, Luis de Oliveira, had instructed him not to take any chances by pushing himself too hard so early in the season. "He told me not to do anything heroic. I didn't take the lead because I wanted to wait for the last 200 to kick."

The defeat cost Cruz little in Grand Prix terms as the 800 metres is not included in this year's circuit.

But double world record holder and champion Jarmila Kratochvilova of Czechoslovakia opened her points account when she coasted to victory in the women's 800 metres in 1:59.92.

Her compatriot Imrich Buger

was the only competitor to threaten a world record at the meeting, the first of 16 Grand Prix events in 13 countries this season.

He won the men's discus with a final throw of 71.26 metres, half a metre off the 71.86 world mark of Soviet Yuri Dumchev, with Norway's Knut Hjeltnes second with 69.62 metres. Triple Olympic champion Valerie Brisco-Hooks triumphed in the women's 100 metres in a wind-assisted 11.01 seconds.

American Steve Scott became the second man to run 100 sub-four minute miles when he won from Ireland's Ray Flynn in 3:56.50. New Zealander John Walker became the first to pass the 100 mark in Auckland last February.

Cruz is now planning to run in the 1,500 metres at the next Grand Prix meeting, the Prefontaine Classic in Eugene, Oregon, on Saturday, and that means another confrontation with Scott.

Cruz beat the American over a mile in Los Angeles eight days ago and will be favourite to do so again to earn his first Grand Prix points.

Gray, a 25-year-old Californian, has run well throughout the early part of the season and caught Cruz on a windy day. Cruz clocked 1:45.89 with Kenyan Billy Konchellah third in 1:46.59.

Cruz was not the only athlete to suffer a surprise defeat. Norway's Grete Waitz, the marathon world champion, finished second in the women's 3,000 metres, her first track race for two years, as American veteran Francine Larrieu won in 8:50.54.

Noah back on glory trial

PARIS (R) — Yannick Noah returns this week to Roland Garros Stadium, scene of his most vivid triumph, armed for the French open with a timely tournament win which ended two barren years on the tennis court.

Noah's victory over promising Czechoslovak Miloslav Mecir in the Italian open final last weekend was his first championship success, since the June day in 1983 when he overcame title-holder Mats Wilander of Sweden to become the first Frenchman to win the French open in 37 years.

Noah's pilgrimage in Rome, where he left Anders Jarryd, Jose-Luis Clerc, Boris Becker and Mecir by the wayside, lifted him from 23rd to 11th in the world rankings and earned him a seeded slot for the French open.

"I can't wait to play the French open. I'm ready," said Noah, whose year has been overshadowed by injury and an emotional crisis that caused him to flee Paris for the relative anonymity of New York.

But the ninth seed faces a tough first round assignment against tall Czechoslovak Libor Pimek, ranked 27th in the world.

Noah's coach Patrice Hagelauer needs no reminding of the hazards. "It's not a very good draw. It's going to be very difficult right from the beginning because Pimek is a very good player and a specialist on clay," he said.

"The rest of that quarter of the draw, with Jose-Luis Clerc, Andre Gomez and Mats Wilander, promises to be formidable. Yannick will have to be good."

The draw could have been unkind still to Noah, urged on this weekend by a full-page advertisement from a sportswear sponsor in the sports daily l'Equipe

proclaiming: "No-ah. No-ah. No-ah."

Wilander, who ousted the French number one in the quarterfinals here last year, has fallen short of his best so far in 1985, while Ecuadorian left-hander Gomez slumped to two morale-sapping first round defeats in recent tournaments.

Lurking in semifinal wait for the survivor of that quarter of the draw should be top seed John McEnroe, beaten in last year's five-set final by Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia.

McEnroe, playing Sunday today in the final of the World Team Tournament in Duesseidort, will not be in first day action at Roland Garros where his first round opponent will be qualifier Ronald Agener of Haiti.

McEnroe can expect to meet three seeded Swedes, Henrik Sundstrom, Joakim Nystrom and Wilander, if the hierarchy of computer rankings is confirmed in this first Grand Slam Tournament of 1985.

The Swedes celebrated a fine victory over McEnroe and his U.S. team-mates in the Davis Cup final last December but they have been less dominant on the circuit this year.

Mecir, Noah's victim in the Italian open final, has enjoyed particular success against Swedish opponents, beating Wilander twice and Jarryd, Sundstrom and Nystrom three times.

Mecir, winner of Grand Prix tournaments in Rotterdam and Hamburg and seeded 11th here, takes on fellow Czechoslovak Jaro Navratil in the first round. If he progresses to the last eight, his likely opponent will be fellow countryman Lendl, the defending champion.

Lendl was surprisingly beaten by Henri Leconte of France last Wednesday in the World Team Cup but will not be easily dislodged from his pedestal at Roland Garros.

Coventry secures 1st division place, beats Everton 4-1

COVENTRY, England (R) — Cyrille Regis led Coventry to first division safety Sunday when he scored twice in the 4-1 win over English League champions Everton which condemned Norwich to the second division.

Coventry, needing to win to climb clear of the relegation zone and send League Cup winners Norwich down in their place, swept 2-0 up inside the opening 16 minutes after Regis and Mickey Adams netted.

Paul Wilkinson reduced the deficit for Everton four minutes before the interval but Regis sent Coventry's fans among the capacity crowd at their highfield road home wild with delight when he grabbed his second one minute after the break.

Mexico: preparations underway for 1986 World Cup soccer tournament

MEXICO CITY (AP) — One year before Mexico hosts the 1986 World Cup soccer tournament, preparations are well along for what often is called the world's leading sports event.

Excitement already is running high, logos for the 1986 tournament visible in many places and crews expanding and modifying the 12 stadiums in nine cities that will be used for the month-long event.

Mexico as the host country is assured of a place in the 24-team field for the World Cup finals that start May 31, 1986.

Also holding an automatic spot is defending champion Italy from the 1982 tournament held in Spain.

Uruguay and Hungary have clinched berths, and elimination contests are proceeding to determine the remaining 20 positions.

Santana may ask Falcao to rejoin Brazil's team

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Brazil's new national soccer team coach Tele Santana said he may ask former all-star Paulo Roberto Falcao, now playing in Italy, to join the squad for Brazil's World Cup qualifying matches in June, according to Sunday press reports.

"A simple phone call will be all it takes to call him to play," Santana said in an interview published in Rio's journal Do Brasil newspaper Sunday. "Falcao is a serious player and he'll know if he's able to play, without needing to take medical exams."

Falcao, who had surgery on his left knee in Houston, Texas last November recently returned to Italy's Roma Club after spending five months undergoing physical therapy in Brazil.

"It's not easy for a player to recuperate from an operation," Santana said in an interview with Rio's O Globo newspaper Sunday. "But from what we know he is once again becoming the exceptional player we all know. I hope Falcao recuperates as fast as possible. He is a talent no coach can turn his back on."

Santana, the coach of Brazil's excellent 1982 World Cup team, on Thursday, replaced Evaristo de Macedo, who led the team during a disappointing series of exhibition games in preparation for the June qualifying matches.

The new squad named by Santana cut nine players from the original team called by Macedo. It includes veteran stars Zico, Cerezo, Junior, Edinho and Socrates, all playing for Italian clubs.

WATER AUTHORITY OF THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN TAFILA WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS CONTRACT T1-80/85 CONTRACT T2-81/85 READVERTISEMENT FOR EXTENSION OF PREQUALIFICATION

The Water Authority, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Nabulus Street, Jabal Hussein, P.O. Box 2412, Amman - Jordan, Telephone 666111, Telex 22439 WAJ JO has issued addendum No. 3 for the Tafila contracts previously published in the local newspapers.

Addendum No. 3 extends the dates and modifies the requirement for receipt of prequalification date from May 9th to June 25, 1985; reschedules the prebid conference to July 11, and the bid opening date to 1200 noon August 6th, 1985. Prime contractors will be notified not later than July 5th, 1985 whether or not they have been prequalified to submit a bid. Also construction management firms in addition to construction firms will be eligible as U.S. subcontractors to enhance the technical and management capabilities and to provide technology transfer to the Jordanian prime contractors. Contractors who have previously submitted prequalification data may wish to resubmit or modify their prequalification information.

The project consists of two contracts, bid separately, however award may be on one or both. The contracts are briefly described as follows:

Contract T-1:

The construction of a 1600-cubic metre per day average capacity wastewater treatment plant consisting of the following major structure and facilities: operation building, Imhoff tanks, trickling filters, secondary clarifiers, solids contact channel, chlorine tank, recirculation pumping station, septage receiving station, effluent holding lagoon, chlorine gas feed system, one sludge lagoon, 22 sludge drying beds, and control room.

Contract T-2

A. Water system — The supply and installation of about 15 kilometres of ductile iron pipes ranging in size from 80 to 250 mm with pressure reducing stations, about 2.5 kilometres of galvanized steel pipes ranging in size from 1/2 to 2 inches, about 1.25 of black steel pipes ranging in size from 100 to 150mm, and two reservoirs, one of 4500 cu.m capacity and the other of 1000 cu.m capacity.

B. Sewerage system — The construction of about 15.5 Km of concrete sewers ranging in size from 150 to 300mm, and about 1.0 Km of ductile iron sewers ranging in size from 150 to 300 mm.

The project is located at Tafila, approximately 200 Kms south of Amman, Jordan. The project is financed under A.I.D. project 278-0259. Payment will be in Jordan Dinars and U.S. Dollars.

To assist contractors in making initial contacts, Jordan contractors association and the Agency for International Development in Washington have agreed to maintain rosters of Jordanian and U.S. firms interested in the project. Interested firms should furnish their names, addresses, telex or telephone numbers to the Jordan Contractors Association. Telex No. 23575 CONASS JO, Telephone 641786 Amman and/or to the Chief Engineer, ANE/PD/Engr, room 4440 New State, Washington, D.C. 20523, telephone 202-632-8262. Interested U.S. subcontractors may also obtain the prequalification questionnaire and information, pertinent to technology transfer from the chief engineer, ANE/PD/Engr.

Contract documents may be examined and/or purchased at the offices of the Water Authority. The cost of the contract documents is as follows:-

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Analysts predict new upturn for dollar

NEW YORK (R) — Despite a recent barrage of bad news, foreign currency analysts predict the dollar will be flexing its muscles again in coming months.

"The dollar has been able to shrug off most of the bad news over the last few months and from now on most of the news should be far more supportive," said Mr. Ezra Zask, foreign exchange consultant at Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

Although U.S. interest rates fell to their lowest levels in nearly seven years after last week's discount rate cut and the economy's 0.7 per cent first quarter growth was the slowest in 2½ years, the dollar has been 10 per cent above its year-ago level when both the economy and interest rates were booming, analysts noted.

The main reason for the currency's continuing popularity was that dollar-denominated investments still offer the most attractive blend of safety and yield for the average investor, they said.

"There is still no really viable alternative to the dollar," said Mr. David Rusate, foreign exchange analyst at Union Carbide.

"The U.S. is sagging at the moment but growth is not spectacular anywhere else in the world either," he added.

In addition, many analysts now said they believed the recent softness in the U.S. economy and interest rates was almost at an end, with an average forecast of about

three per cent real growth in Gross National Product in the current quarter.

Treasury Secretary James Baker last week answered fears of a recession by predicting a "considerable rebound" in the economy in the second half of the year, which should ensure the administration achieves its four per cent full year growth forecast.

A recent survey by Bankamerica International of 50 foreign exchange managers at major U.S. companies showed that 75 per cent believed the dollar would rise over the next few months.

Based on expectations of a stronger economy and rising interest rates, 30 per cent of the dollar "bulls" forecast the U.S. currency would reach 3.25 marks, 40 per cent expected a rise to 3.25 to 3.30 and 30 per cent foresaw a rise to between 3.30 to 3.60.

Not all analysts shared the optimism about the dollar's renewed strength.

Some said the Federal Reserve (central bank) was very worried about the strong dollar's damaging impact on the industrial sector of the economy, and this could induce it to repeat last week's ½ percentage point discount rate cut in the near future.

Other analysts expressed strong reservations about the effectiveness of such action, noting that discount rate cuts in late November and December had had minimal impact on the dollar.

Trend to bank mergers likely to spread in Gulf

BAHRAIN (R) — Bank mergers, already sweeping the United Arab Emirates (UAE), are likely to become a feature of banking in other parts of the Gulf, bankers in the region say.

Most bankers agree the region has too many banks for the current depressed business activity, and say mergers would be a good way to solve the problem.

In the UAE, officials say they expect mergers to halve the number of local banks by the end of the year and combinations of foreign and local banks are also being contemplated.

The practice could spread, particularly to Bahrain with its 76 offices, banking units, 59 representative offices and 20 commercial banks, and Kuwait.

"For those (local banks) which have not been able to get off the mark, which are having problems finding direction, there must be discussions of mergers," said Mr. John House, general manager of Kuwait Asia Bank, a Bahrain-based offshore bank.

The region's oil revenues, which brought the banks here in the first place, have dropped by half in three years and the Iran-Iraq war and Kuwait's stock market crash have hit business confidence.

The resultant economic contraction has slowed bank business and brought them problem loans, and the environment is not expected to change soon.

Bankers see the current year as more difficult than the last.

Bahrain bank officials say they know of no current merger talks but many agree mergers would be desirable for some banks.

Mr. Henry Azzam, vice-president and economist at the Bahrain-based United Gulf Bank, believes mergers among Gulf banks would strengthen the institutions on both sides of the balance sheet.

"On the loans side and on the liabilities side, they need to get together and have larger capital and more customers."

Bankers said United Gulf and two other offshore banks, Bahrain International Bank and Bahrain Middle East Bank, were discussing a merger 18 months ago but did not go ahead with it.

They said mergers, within or across national boundaries, were

more likely to take place from necessity than desire. They cited as a possible example the proposed takeover of Bahrain-based Arab Asian Bank by a Saudi group.

The Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) last month asked the Ibn Mahfouz family of Saudi Arabia, owners of substantial stakes in National Commercial Bank of Saudi Arabia and the Saudi National Commercial Bank in Bahrain, to take over Arab Asian, they said.

BMA officials describe reports they asked the family to take over Arab Asian as "speculative".

The takeover, through the family's Luxembourg-based Middle East Financial Group, awaits an audit of the bank's accounts.

"In Bahrain, I don't see much happening this year," Mr. Azzam said. "But in the future, if things deteriorate further and if the banks are pushed into it as they have been by the central bank in the UAE, then we'll see mergers."

In the UAE, after years of trying to persuade banks to merge in an economy widely regarded as heavily overbanked, the financial authorities have finally got their way.

Mergers began in earnest after introduction of regulations which called for greater financial disclosure.

The mergers have already cut the number of local banks to 19 from 24 at the start of this year and more are said to be on the way.

Central Bank Governor Abdul Malik Al Hamar said in a television interview earlier this month that he expected the number of local banks to be reduced to 12 by the end of the year.

In recent months United Bank of the Middle East, bailed out by the authorities in November 1983, has swallowed two other Dubai institutions, Emirates National Bank and Dubai Bank.

Three Abu Dhabi banks — Khaleej Commercial, Emirates Commercial and Federal Commercial — have also combined to form Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, whose capital of \$340 million is larger than any other bank in the emirates.

In the northern emirates, Ajman-based First Gulf Bank has

agreed to take over Ras Al Khaimah's Bank of the Arab Coast.

Sheikh Hamar has said he also favours mergers between local banks and foreign banks operating in the country, of which there are 29 with a total of 128 branches.

Foreign bankers say nothing serious is under consideration, but add it could be an interesting proposition for both sides.

The new local banks are winning government business from foreign banks, although foreign banks can still give local ones international connections they otherwise could not afford.

Bankers see prospects for further mergers among Dubai banks, although the possible expense to the government, through injections of new capital, may act as a deterrent.

In Kuwait, merger plans among banks appear to have been shelved until new Finance Minister Jassim Mohammad Al Khorafi, who took over in March, settles in.

His predecessor, Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah, had called for mergers to make banks competitive internationally but the new minister's attitude toward mergers is not clear.

Persistent speculation that Burj Bank would combine with Bank of Kuwait and the Middle East — both have a majority government shareholding — to form Kuwait International Bank has thus given way to uncertainty.

Expectations continue that some of Kuwait's specialised financial institutions will combine, including the Kuwait Real Estate Investment Corporation, Kuwait Investment Company and Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company.

The government is a majority shareholder in the firms and has used the latter two to help in the share support scheme following the collapse of the country's stock markets.

Both have taken heavy losses and have yet to report 1984 results.

In Kuwait, as in other Gulf states, bankers say the main opponents to mergers are families who have major shareholdings in some banks, and in some cases by bank managements who see their jobs threatened.

Lear Fan plane firm folds, British government says

LONDON (R) — A U.S.-based firm which hoped to build a revolutionary fuel-economic aircraft in Northern Ireland has collapsed after failing to win safety clearance for its design, the British government said Saturday night.

Lear Fan, whose eight-seat planes were designed to fly almost as fast as jets on a third of the fuel, had predicted it would transform the executive plane market and bring up to 3,000 new jobs to the troubled province.

The London government backed it with £57 million (\$72 million) in aid, but Saturday night Northern Ireland's Industry Minister Rhodes Boyson said the firm had folded.

It is the second time an ambitious industrial project in Northern Ireland has ended in costly failure.

In 1982 U.S. entrepreneur John De Lorean's Belfast-based "dream car" firm folded after swallowing \$130 million of state money.

Mr. Boyson said the board of Lear Fan passed a resolution in Los Angeles on Friday to cease

trading and the 200-strong workforce at the firm's U.S. base in Reno, Nevada, had been informed.

The Lear Fan was to be made of lightweight carbon fibre and powered by two turbines driving a single propeller, mounted at the rear. Prototypes were built, but they were unable to secure vital airworthiness certificates in the United States.

Lear Fan was the final inspiration of American inventor Bill Lear, creator of a successful executive jet range.

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's ambitious nuclear energy programme has run into fresh delays and contracts for the first two reactors, scheduled to have been awarded on May 1, are not now expected before late summer, Western diplomats said Sunday.

Egypt invited bids for the two plants, expected to cost some \$2.4 billion, in November 1983 and Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said in February that the contracts would be awarded by May 1. But the diplomats said the government

Saudi Arabia, Iran signal support for OPEC pricing

BAHRAIN (R) — The two largest oil producers in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia and Iran, have signalled support for the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in separate statements apparently designed to shore up a weak world oil market.

The Saudi petroleum and mineral resources ministry denied it was preparing for an oil price cut and said it remained committed to defending OPEC's official price structure.

A ministry spokesman, quoted by the official Saudi Press Agency, said: "For the sake of clarifying the truth, we wish to emphasise that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which has borne the greater responsibility in defending prices, will not be the one to prepare for their reduction."

Rumours on the world oil market that Saudi Arabia was preparing for a price cut were triggered by a telex sent to oil traders by the Saudi state oil firm Petromin late last week advising of procedures in the case of a change of oil prices.

Separately, Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi indicated the end of an aggressive oil sales drive by Iran, which oil industry sources said took Iranian output last month to the highest levels since 1979.

In a statement carried by the national news agency IRNA, Mr. Gharazi said Iran wanted to reduce significantly its oil business

Norway cuts oil price

Meanwhile, Norway, reacting to a weak world oil market, has cut the price of its North Sea crude by up to \$1 per barrel, oil industry sources said Sunday.

The state-owned oil company Statoil, which exports over two-thirds of Norway's 750,000 barrels per day crude production, cut prices after pressure from contract customers, the sources said.

They told Reuters Statoil's price, fixed on a monthly basis, for June deliveries would probably be between \$26.50 and \$27 per barrel, compared with April's \$27.50 to \$28.

The price for May deliveries had been agreed between \$27.20 and \$27.50.

The sources said Statoil's price cut reflected a general weakness in prices on the spot, or free market, where North Sea Brent crude is currently about \$26.50 per barrel.

OPEC, which has cut back production in a bid to shore up prices, has been critical of British and Norwegian production levels.

Britain produces 3.7 million barrels per day and Norway has said it is making an effort to increase production.

Statoil declined to confirm or deny the reports, saying the company no longer published details of its pricing policy.

It stopped publishing after starting a price war last October by cutting \$1 off its crude.

Sudan dissolves oil joint venture with Khashoggi

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's new military leader, General Abdul Rahman Swareddahab, has ordered the dissolution of an oil company set up last year with Saudi Arabian businessman Mr. Adnan Khashoggi, the official Sudan News Agency SUNA said.

The National Oil Company of Sudan was set up as a 50-50 joint venture last September under an agreement between the now-deposed government of president Jaafar Numeiri and Mr. Khashoggi's Segma Company.

General Swareddahab, who

took power in a military coup on April 6, was quoted by SUNA Saturday night as saying the agreement was the "peak of political, administrative and financial corruption."

In a statement earlier this month, Mr. Khashoggi refuted Arab press reports of impropriety in his dealings with Sudan.

He said his agreement with the Numeiri government was aimed at developing the country's mineral resources and added: "The status of that contract is entirely in the

hands of the new government and I will abide by its decision, whatever it may be."

Oil exploration in southern Sudan has been disrupted by anti-government rebels, and the United States company Chevron suspended work there after three of its people were killed by guerrillas in February last year.

Sudan imports oil products worth \$400 million every year and hoped to cut this by nearly 50 per cent by exporting oil from its southern fields.

Egypt postpones awarding contracts for nuclear plants

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's ambitious nuclear energy programme has run into fresh delays and contracts for the first two reactors, scheduled to have been awarded on May 1, are not now expected before late summer, Western diplomats said Sunday.

Egypt invited bids for the two plants, expected to cost some \$2.4 billion, in November 1983 and Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said in February that the contracts would be awarded by May 1. But the diplomats said the government

was still studying financing arrangements offered by bidders.

"It is not going to be delayed for ever, but we don't expect a decision until late summer or early autumn," said a senior West European diplomat closely involved in the project.

The diplomats said Egypt did not now expect to get a report by Swiss consultants, Motor Columbus on technical aspects of the bids until next month and it would take several weeks for officials to review that.

Bidders for the two 1,000 megawatt reactors, to be built west of Alexandria, are a consortium led by France's Framatome, West Germany's Kraftwerk Union and Bechtel and Westinghouse, both of the United States.

Egypt hopes to generate some 40 per cent of its electricity from eight nuclear plants by the year 2000. It set up a special fund to finance the programme which the diplomats said totalled some \$700 million.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MAY 27, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you would be wise to perform specific duties in a most conscientious fashion, for you may be met with criticism over some apparently unimportant item.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be very precise in handling any work either in business or at home. Try to be more supportive of co-workers.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may make plans for entertainment that could go awry, but take this in stride. Blame the planets if your mate acts up today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Begin the new week properly by atoning clear of tensions at home and thereby avoid trouble. Don't invite loud friends into your home.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be very careful in the answering of letters so that you do not raise the ire of others.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Your judgment may not be good today, and you could make serious errors where finances and property matters are concerned.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You may feel depressed or imposed upon, so become more objective and everything will go much better for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You feel you have too many personal duties to handle and cannot get more important things done, but complete them anyway.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may find it difficult to gain personal aims because others put obstacles in the path of your progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be careful not to do anything that could spoil your good name in the community in which you dwell.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) It's important you complete what you have begun before going off to new interests and places.

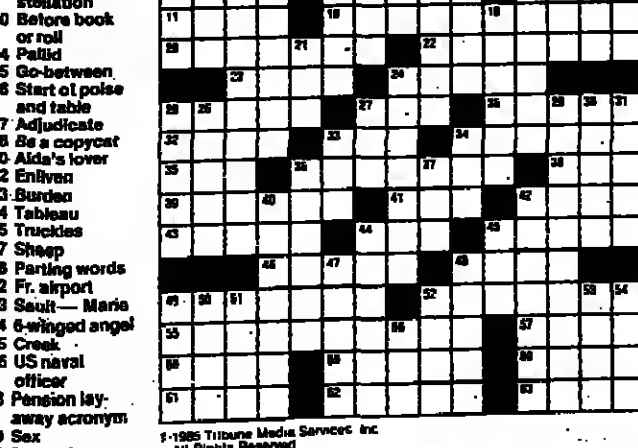
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) It is important that you make collections and pay pressing bills this day and you can go after new business later in the week.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't have long talks with partners or arguments could start that are better averted. Stay calm, cool and collected.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will like to pick out the flaws in others, but teach to use this quality only for constructive purposes and thereby avoid getting into much trouble. Help to understand the motives that cause others to act the way they do. Teach to be kind, gentle and understanding with others.

THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Flegner

ACROSS
1 Ultimate
5 While con-
10 Before book
14 Faded
15 Go-between
16 Start of police
17 Adjudicate
18 Be a copyist
20 Wife's lover
22 Enraged
23 Burden
24 Tableau
25 Tackles
27 Sheep
28 Parting words
32 Fr. airport
33 Scent — Maria
34 6-winged angel
35 Creek
36 US naval
38 Pension lay-
39 away acronym
40 Sex
41 Pourboire
42 Light
43 Ancient
44 Lamprey
45 GI's alarm
46 Kind of energy
48 Kind of beam
49 Judge
52 Funny man
53 Woo solicit-
54 Character
55 What's left
56 Person's stuff
57 "Don't tread"
58 Demours
59 Gentry or Rice
60 Mined ooth



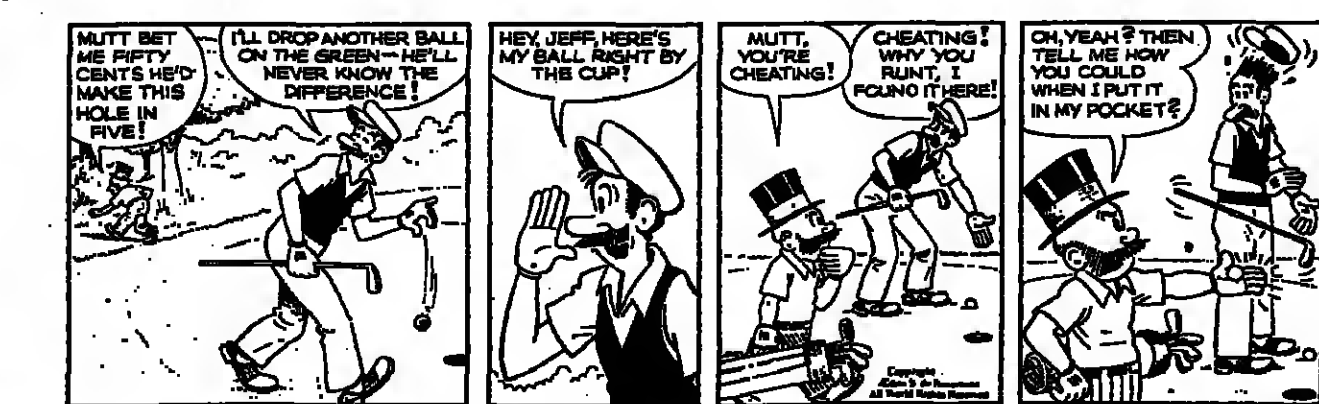
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:
ACROSS
1. SPARE
2. BRILL
3. TITAN
4. ALMA
5. WIFE
6. LOVER
7. BURDEN
8. TABLEAU
9. TACKLES
10. SHEEP
11. PARTING
12. FR. AIRPORT
13. SCENT — MARIA
14. 6-WINGED ANGEL
15. CREEK
16. US NAVAL
17. PENSION LAY-AWAY ACRONYM
18. SEX
19. POURBOIRE
20. LIGHT
21. ANCIENT
22. LAMPREY
23. GI'S ALARM
24. KIND OF ENERGY
25. KIND OF BEAM
26. JUDGE
27. FUNNY MAN
28. WOO SOLICIT-
29. CHARACTER
30. WHAT'S LEFT
31. PERSON'S STUFF
32. "DON'T TREAD"
33. DEMOURS
34. GENTRY OR RICE
35. MINED OOTH

DOWN
1. Lion imper-
2. Subdued
3. Realm of
4. Pharmacy
5. Despotism
6. Before
7. In Paris
8. Distress
9. Puffed tail-
10. absc.
11. Eat late
12. Signify
13. Sesame
14. Cessus
15. Private eye
16. Scolding
17. Receptacle
18. Rental contract
19. Temples
20. Farm measure
21. Large bird
22. Woody fiber
23. Seager or Rose
24. Columnist
25. Bombs
26. Organ part
27. Comic Comedy

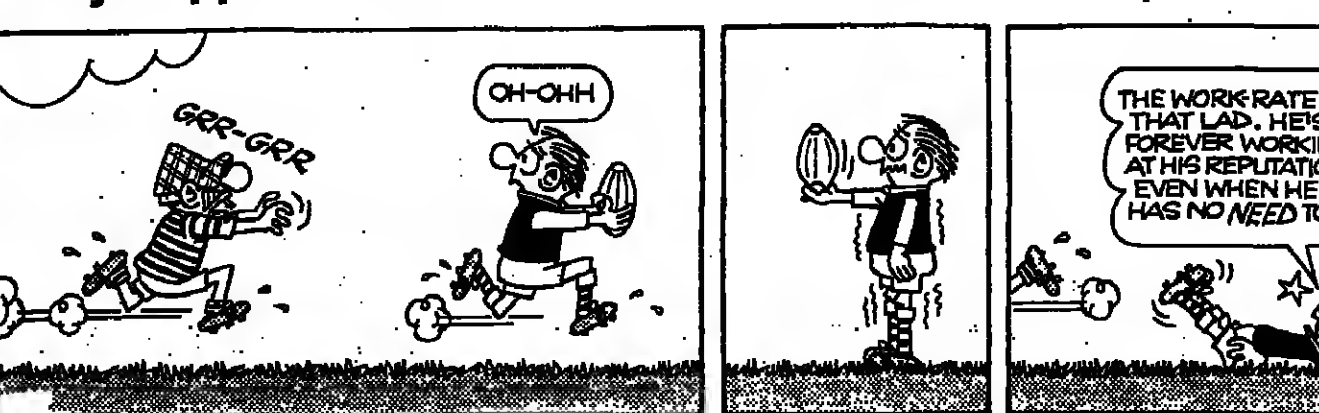
Peanuts



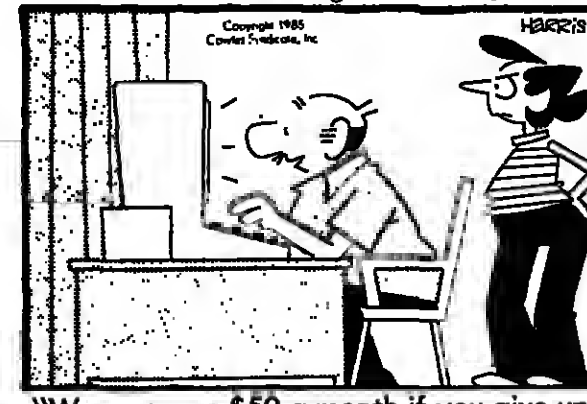
Mutt 'n' Jeff



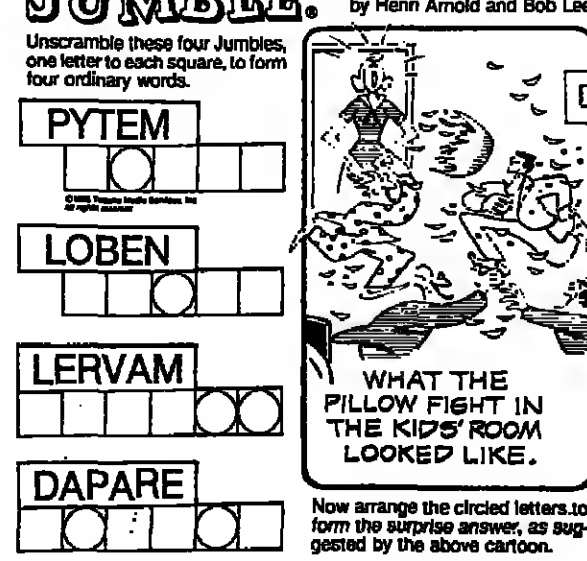
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE



Print answer here: "_____-_____"
(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: HOARO CRAZY TANGLE UTMOST
Answer: What the tired swabbie was tooting forward to — "SNORE" DUTY

Angola seeks S. African explanation over attack

LISBON (R) — Angola has called on Pretoria to explain what it called "criminal actions" by South African commandos in northern Angola, the official Angolan News Agency Angop said.

In a despatch from Luanda, Angop said that Angolan authorities had no official knowledge of a South African request for an urgent meeting about a clash in which two South African soldiers were killed and another captured.

Quoting official sources Angop said Luanda had no intention of discussing the problem with the South Africans in a few days. "On the contrary," the agency said, "the Angolan government demands explanations from the South African government for the criminal actions of the South African commandos, frustrated by the prompt and vigilant action of the Angolan Armed Forces."

Angola has said its troops engaged the South African commandos while they were trying to sabotage nil installations in the northern Cabinda province.

Angop said the South African action was in direct contradiction with promised peaceful intentions by Pretoria.

It declared that South African statements defending the action "made no sense because there are no Namibian or South African refugees in the Angolan province of Cabinda."

Angop said the captured South African would be presented to the international press next week. It also said South African statements suggested that other sabotage groups were operating in Angola.

In another development, the Portuguese News Agency Anop quoted Sam Nujoma, leader of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), as repeating in Luanda that his nationalist guerrillas were ready to sign a ceasefire with South Africa whenever Pretoria ceased its intransigence.

SWAPO, operating from bases in Angola, has been fighting a bush war against South African rule in Namibia for nearly 20 years.

In Belgrade Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and

Yugoslav Prime Minister Milka Planinc Saturday sharply condemned what they called South Africa's aggressive and racist policies.

The two leaders urged the international community to undertake measures to protect the independence and sovereignty of black Africa's group of "front-line" states which they said were constantly endangered by South Africa.

They said that in addition to threatening the frontline group comprising Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana, South Africa was continuing an illegal occupation of Namibia (South West Africa).

The call came in talks and in toasts at an official dinner which Mr. Planinc gave in Mr. Mugabe's honour. The Zimbabwean premier arrived in Belgrade Saturday.

Sources close to the two sides said Mr. Mugabe's talks with Mr. Planinc also covered the situation elsewhere in Africa, ways to further improve bilateral economic ties and major international political and economic problems.



LANDSLIDE AFTERMATH: Campers and rescuers stand around what remains of a caravan that collapsed a wall and rolled over several caravans and tents killing 11 people (AP wirephoto)

Soviets can counter SDI, scientist says

MOSCOW (R) — A leading Soviet scientist has said the Soviet Union had the means to counter Washington's proposed space-based anti-missile defence system known as "Star Wars".

"It is rather easy to puncture a small hole in the 'space umbrella' and launch all missiles through it," said physicist Yevgenii Velikhov, a vice-president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

Velikhov, whose comments were reported by the official Soviet News Agency TASS, was speaking in a television discussion programme.

Under President Reagan's "Star Wars" plan, officially known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), the United States is funding a massive research project into ways to shoot down hostile nuclear missiles in flight.

"The Soviet Union has every scientific and technological possibility to counter that threat very effectively," Velikhov was quoted as saying. "Counter measures will be cheaper and far more efficient. It is very important for the United States to realise this in time."

The scientist said the project was unrealistic, and asserted that it would not make nuclear weapons obsolete as it could not counter ground-hugging cruise mis-

siles or long-range bombers.

He repeated the Soviet view that the project was a cover for the development of offensive weapons in space. "What is realistic is the deployment of space-based weapons which can be used in the first strike and thus constitute an obvious threat," he said.

The SDI project is a major sticking point in the Geneva nuclear arms reduction talks between the superpowers which resume on May 30, and Soviet media are conducting a campaign against it.

The United States says the Soviet Union began long ago researching into anti-ballistic missiles, though Defence Minister Sergei Sokolov recently denied that Moscow was engaged in what he called an arms race in space.

Western diplomats in Moscow say the cost of matching the U.S. research effort would weigh heavily on the Soviet economy.

Kissinger urges talks on SDI

Meanwhile Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said Saturday the United States should start talks immediately with the Soviet Union on the deployment of a partial "Star Wars" defence against nuclear weapons.

Dr. Kissinger said the officially-proclaimed separation between research and deployment in President Reagan's proposed SDI, was illusory.

"I think we should put an end to the charade that we are only doing research and (that) at some indefinite time in the future we will discuss some possible weapon," he told a conference of the Dutch Atlantic Commission.

"There is no huge mystery about what that research is going to show," he said, adding that it would inevitably require a renegotiation of the 1972 U.S.-Soviet treaty restricting anti-ballistic missiles (ABM).

Dr. Kissinger said if debate on the deployment of space defences was left to the future, the U.S. would be vulnerable to Soviet proposals linking cuts in offensive nuclear warheads to an unfavourable ban on SDI development.

Instead, Washington should now seek an arms control agreement combining a ban on multiple nuclear warheads with a reduction in the number of launchers and the deployment of a degree of anti-missile defence related to the numbers of offensive system, he said.

Gandhi ends Soviet visit

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi returned Sunday after what he said was a successful six-day trip to the Soviet Union, his first official tour abroad.

Mr. Gandhi told reporters at Delhi Airport he discussed with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev issues ranging from reports of Pakistan's nuclear programme in the situation in West Asia.

"The two economic agreements we have signed in Moscow are really indicative of the extremely good talks we had with Mr. Gorbachev," he said.

Under the agreements, India will receive Soviet credits totalling more than 11 billion rupees (\$900 million) for oil, power and coal projects.

In a joint statement, the two countries expressed concern over what they called Israel's expansionist aims and welcomed U.S.-Soviet talks on nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Gandhi said he would express India's opposition to Washington's proposed "Star Wars" plans for a space-based anti-missile defence when he visits the United States next month.

"As far as the Star Wars are concerned, both we and the Soviets are against it," he said.

In their statement, New Delhi and Moscow also called for an urgent convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Gandhi said in an interview with Newsweek magazine, published Saturday, that Pakistan was very close to building a nuclear bomb and the United States was not doing enough to stop it.

He said he would raise the issue of U.S. arms sales to Pakistan in talks with President Reagan next month. Islamabad's nuclear intentions would also be discussed.

Mr. Gandhi rejected reports that his choice of the Soviet Union for his first official trip abroad was to counter Moscow's concern over India's growing ties with the United States.

He said his Soviet trip had str-

engthened ties between the two nations, linked by a friendship treaty signed in 1971.

Moscow is India's biggest weapons supplier, but was overtaken by the United States last year as the country's leading trade partner.

Mr. Gandhi said that while U.S. customs had recently caught a Pakistani national trying to smuggle out triggering devices for nuclear weapons "this action was not tough enough."

Mr. Gandhi added: "We feel that the U.S. perspective of the region is different from ours. The introduction of nuclear weapons in our area will completely change the whole region."

"What we don't like about the \$3.2 billion U.S. weapons programme is that it is much too large for Pakistan."

He added: "Ostensibly it is to be used in the war against Soviet and Afghan troops. But much of the equipment is such that it cannot be used in the mountainous areas surrounding Afghanistan. So it will be positioned against India."

Mr. Gandhi left the Kirghizian capital of Frunze for home on Sunday at the end of a six-day visit hailed by the Communist Party daily Pravda as "an important landmark" for cooperation between the two nations.

Devoting one-third of Pravda's Sunday review of international affairs to Mr. Gandhi's stay, commentator Boris Averchenko lauded the visit as "a considerable event" and emphasised the "deep roots and rich traditions" of Soviet-Indian relations.

He recalled that the Soviet Union had been a consistent friend of India, helping the Asian nation develop its basic heavy industry and assisting all stages of its development.

Friendly relations between the two nations "are maintained on the basis of equality and mutual respect, on the identity or proximity of the two countries' positions on the basic problems of our times," Averchenko said.

Sri Lanka probes reports of 13 deaths

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan authorities are investigating reports that at least 13 civilians were killed in clashes between troops and separatist Tamil guerrillas in the north east, a government spokesman said Sunday.

The Sunday Observer newspaper said that eight civilians were reported to have been killed Saturday night near Pankulam town about 15 kilometres west of the north eastern city of Trincomalee.

"They were alleged to have been killed by men dressed in army uniforms," the newspaper said without giving details.

Earlier the chairman of the Trincomalee Citizens' Committee said security forces shot dead at least five Tamil civilians at the Nilaveli tourist resort north of Trincomalee.

He said men in khaki and blue uniforms, believed to be members of the armed forces, killed seven Tamil civilians, including one of his sons last Thursday.

Two of the bodies were missing and the remaining five were handed over to relatives after an autopsy.

The government spokesman said the reports were being investigated.

He said nine "terrorists" fighting for a Tamil state had been killed in two encounters with security forces at Nilaveli last Wednesday and Thursday.

Dutch police interrogate armed Turk arrested during Pope's recent visit

AMSTERDAM (R) — A man carrying a loaded pistol was arrested during the recent visit to the Netherlands by Pope John Paul II and is being interrogated by Dutch police, a justice official has said.

Public prosecutor L. Van Der Laan, for the Roermond district in the south east of the country, said by telephone from his home there were some indications that the man, arrested on a train as he entered the country from West Germany, may have intended to harm the Pope.

The man, aged about 25, gave his name as Aslan Esmet and said he was Turkish, Mr. Van Der Laan said. But he said there were doubts about the authenticity of the papers he carried.

Esmet was being held at this stage for possessing an unlicensed

Death toll in Bangladesh cyclone rises to 1,500

DHAKA (R) — About 1,500 people are now known to have been killed and thousands are still missing after the tidal waves that battered islands off Bangladesh's coast on Friday, state television said Sunday.

The waves were set off by a cyclone and Sunday army and navy rescue teams pressed the search for more victims.

Navy boats were searching the Bay of Bengal where more than 500 fishermen were feared drowned after their boats capsized during the cyclone, they said. Helicopters were scouring the

worst hit islands of Akhter Munshir Hat, Hatiya, Sandwip, Char Clerk and Sucharampur, the officials said.

The administrator of the southern Naakhali district, M.A. Rashid, told Reuters by telephone rescue workers had recovered 200 dead bodies from Akhter Munshir Hat alone.

Officials said 100 bodies were recovered from Sandwip and Hatiya Islands and they were expecting more as the search continued.

A tidal wave in 1962 killed nearly 25,000 people on islands in the area.

S. Korean students end occupation of U.S. library

SEOUL (R) — South Korean students Sunday ended a four-day occupation of the library at the U.S. Information Service building in Seoul staged to demand that Washington withdraw its support for President Chun Doo Hwan.

The 72 students were taken to Seoul hospitals in two buses for checkups before being detained for questioning by police.

Another student, a girl, had been taken from the building earlier Sunday after fainting and 10 of the protesters were treated for dizzy spells inside the building by six doctors who were allowed to go in.

The students had barricaded themselves in the U.S. library since last Thursday and took their first food after calling off a hunger strike Saturday.

They held five rounds of talks with U.S. diplomats and threatened to commit suicide if riot police tried to storm the building and evict them forcibly.

"It is judged to be meaningless that we continue dialogue with the U.S. side," a student leader told reporters gathered outside the building Saturday night.

The students wanted Washington to apologise for what they say was its role in helping the military to crush an insurrection in 1980 in south western Kwangju City, in which 191 people were officially reported killed.

Chinese leader calls on artists to boost patriotism

PEKING (R) — Chinese writers and artists must devote themselves to rousing greater patriotism among the people, Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang said in a directive on cultural policy published Sunday.

"A most important political responsibility of artists and performers is to arouse patriotic zeal among the whole people, to devote themselves wholeheartedly to the Socialist modernisation and construction of the motherland," Mr. Hu wrote.

"Every party member in cultural and artistic organisations must not forget this most important responsibility." Mr. Hu had his comments printed on the front pages of the major official newspapers and ordered them to be distributed to all theatres, publishers, artists, press and educational organisations for discussion.

He stressed that Communist officials must not interpret his directive as allowing a return to tight party direction of art and he did not want artistic works that cr-

Kanaks agree to take part in elections

NOUMEA (R) — Kanak separatist groups Sunday agreed to participate in August elections for a New Caledonian congress, the first stage of a French government plan to lead the territory towards independence.

Separatist leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou told reporters before the close of a two-day congress of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) that the seven groups in the movement had agreed to take part in the poll to elect four new regional councils and a congress.

Political sources said the decision was a victory for the mainstream moderate groups within the umbrella FLNKS, which had been pressed by hardliners to reject all dealings with the French.

Mr. Tjibaou's decision to set up new regional councils in the troubled South Pacific territory was aimed at giving the Kanaks a wider say in government affairs ahead of a referendum on independence to take place before the end of 1987.

But Mr. Tjibaou said the separatist movement was undecided as to whether it would take any part in the independence referendum because it was opposed to French plans to consult both white settlers and indigenous Kanaks.

"The Fabius plan is not that of the Kanak people. The FLNKS rejects its neo-colonial logic," he said.

The FLNKS also opposed French plans to build a major military base on the South Pacific island and was against Paris' proposal to grant New Caledonia independence in association with France, Tjibaou said.

"We do not know exactly what independence-association signifies. We are against the principle. We agree to an association but only between equal partners, which means sovereignty," he said.

More than 1,500 people attended the two-day FLNKS congress, held in Mr. Tjibaou's home town of Hienghene, in the north-east.

Scientist develops AIDS vaccine for cats

LONDON (R) — A British scientist has developed a vaccine against the killer disease AIDS in cats and is working on a human version, the Observer newspaper reported Sunday. It said Professor William Jarrett of Glasgow University's Veterinary Pathology Department, who was working on leukaemia in cats, found the virus responsible for the blood disease could also cause AIDS in the animals. He developed a vaccine against it and received a grant of \$250,000 from the U.S. government to prepare a human version, the paper said. It added that he was working with Dr. Robert Gallo of the U.S. National Cancer Institute, the first to identify the human AIDS virus, which blocks the body's resistance to infection. Dr. Jarrett's team was working to isolate parts of the virus which were harmless but would trigger the body's defences against the real AIDS infection, the Observer said. "It is an extremely promising approach," Dr. Jarrett said.

Day-old chicks cleared for take-off

AMSTERDAM (R) — Air traffic controllers who closed Dutch Airports in a pay dispute gave special permission for 260,000 newly-hatched chicks to fly to Cairo. Because long delays could have been fatal to the chickens, emergency air traffic control staff allowed an Egyptian Boeing 707 to take off for Cairo with their delicate cargo. An airport spokesman said the plane was one of only three to leave Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport during a 16-hour protest when the controllers, who are not allowed to strike, reported sick en masse in support of a pay claim.

Kenyan completes 3-nation walk

MOMBASA, Kenya (AP) — To the strain of Scottish bagpipes and the cheers of hometown fans, a Kenyan game warden walked into Mombasa to finish a trek across three nations that raised money for conservation of the rhinoceros. Michael Werikhe, who marked his 29th birthday Saturday, was welcomed home by several hundred residents of this Indian Ocean port city, tourists, American sailors on shore leave, his mother and local officials. "I am really glad to be back home," a cheerful Werikhe told reporters after walking the final leg of the journey through Mombasa streets lined with well-wishers carrying welcoming banners and signs. A local bagpipe band wheezed out a salute. The game warden, who works in the coast province, reckons he walked about 2,000 kilometres to publicise the plight of the rhino. Werikhe began the trek in February from Kampala, the capital of neighbouring Uganda, and then walked through Tanzania and Kenya in a bid to raise 500,000 Kenya shillings — about 30,300 — to help preserve the rhino from extinction. Poaching and encroachment of people into the rhino's habitat has reduced the rhino population of this East African nation to around 500.

U.K. policeman accused of murder

SOUTHPORT, England (R) — A British police officer has been charged with murdering a 67-year-old man in a police station. Alwyn Sawyer, 44, a policeman for 23 years, appeared in a court in this north western town accused of murdering the man in February while he was in police custody on a drinking charge. Sawyer was freed on bail until June 28 after a two-minute hearing.

China raises funds for panda rescue

PEKING (AP) — The Chinese Wildlife Protection Association has received donations from 10 million Chinese and foreigners for the rescue of famine-threatened giant pandas, the official Xinhua News Agency has reported. Chinese animal lovers have donated 2.15 million yuan (\$754,386) and foreigners \$92,000 since the rescue fund was launched last year. The government says 55 giant pandas have starved to death in south west China since 1983 when arrow bamboo, the black-and-white animal's staple food, entered a rare flowering cycle and died. Rescue workers have saved the lives of 26 starving pandas, Wildlife Association President Yang Zhong reported.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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THE TALE OF THE TWO OF HEARTS

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series we will go back to our weekly question and answer column.

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♠ K10

♥ Q3

♦ A742

♣ AKJ107

WEST

♠ Q952

♥ AJ63

♦ 76

♣ KJ0963

♠ Q3

SOUTH

♠ 874

♥ KJ109854

♦ 3

♣ 65

The bidding:

North Pass South Pass

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠.

The Two of Hearts was perhaps small in stature, but he was certainly huge in spirit. As he discoursed on his favorite pastime, everyone within earshot paid rapt attention.

"I don't know why you keep making a fuss of all those honor cards. Anyone can win tricks if they are large and powerful. The true test of a bridge player lies in the way he

handles us—the insignificant spot cards. Therein lies the real beauty of the game."

"Now I don't like to boast, I am offering this hand simply as an example of what I mean. That it was the crucial hand in a major team championship is purely incidental. You might like to dwell a while on the sensible auction conducted by North-South to reach an excellent contract, but in the words of that great Dane—I forget the name for the moment—the play's the thing."

"I was in the possession of one of the most imaginative players I have come across in many a year. Against four hearts, his partner led the two of spades—the obvious lead, considering the auction. Declarer made the good play of the king from dummy, and my partner took the ace. He paused to take stock."

"From West's opening lead, declarer obviously held three spades. Unless trump were drawn, declarer would ruff his spade loser on the table. However, if my star tried to prevent the ruff by leading the ace of hearts and another, declarer would quickly use the board's club suit to take care of his spade losers. What to do?"

"The solution was most elegant—to the second trick I was led! Declarer was helpless. If he went after the clubs for a third discard, West would ruff the third club of the setting trick. If he played another spade, we would win cash the ace of trumps and a third spade for down one. A masterful defense!"